FBIS DAILY REPORT

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GOVERNMENT SOURCES ON U.S. RELATIONS, AMBASSADOR

PY220345 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 21 Aug 84 p 6

[Text] Reports of alleged displeasure between the U.S. Embassy and the Argentine Government have provoked conflictive reactions at Government House. Although no one at Government House wanted to make an official statement, it was learned that Foreign Minister Dante Caputo went to Government House at noon yesterday at a time when President Alfonsin was attending a ceremony at the Buenos Aires National School. It was learned that Caputo met with Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli. Caputo, who was not scheduled to go to Government House yesterday, left after meeting for 10 minutes with the interior minister.

In any case, LA NACION was able to obtain comments from two of the closest presidential aides on the current status of relations between the Argentine Government, U.S. Ambassador Frank Ortiz, and members of the U.S. Embassy. One of them bluntly summed up the thinking of the government as follows: "There is annoyance and displeasure because some diplomats, in some cases, have not observed the required prudence in passing judgment on the Argentine domestic situation."

It seems that the problem is not new, but goes back in time. In fact, the same official said that some U.S. diplomats who are linked to "Argentine sectors which have access to the information available at the U.S. Embassy," have also been making comments on the status of the Argentine international financial negotiations which has provoked displeasure at top levels in Government House.

Yet another top presidential aide said that these circumstances have not affected relations "to the point of becoming extremely serious." He stated that the two countries are making efforts to improve and to maintain their relations as much as possible. The same source also denied that Ambassador Ortiz had submitted to the Argentine authorities a critical document on the overall Argentine situation. He admitted, however, that what the diplomat could do, in any case, is comment on issues concerning his own country, but not on Argentina.

At the Press and Information Secretariat, it was reported yesterday that "these reports are the exclusive responsibility of those who released them."

It was learned that yesterday morning Ambassador Ortiz talked to Foreign Minister Caputo to voice his surprise over this report and that Caputo had told him that he was equally surprised and that the report published by a metropolitan media "is a fabrication."

In reply to a question, a U.S. Embassy source said: "No comment." However, it was unofficially reported that John Bushnel, who is reportedly at odds with Ambassador Ortiz, has been in the United States since 23 June. Upcoming changes in the U.S. Embassy staff have also been denied.

Further Report

PY221638 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1322 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Aug (NA) -- In a recent private meeting with U.S. Ambassador Frank Ortiz, the Argentine Foreign Ministry expressed its "concern" to the ambassador over his criticism of economic policy, but that at no time did it consider the possibility of declaring him "persona non grata," as indicated by a recent newspaper report.

Reliable San Martin Palace sources made a point of clarifying some terms of the newspaper report and denied the intention to declare Ortiz persona non grata or to demand his expulsion from the country. They admitted, however, that he was "faulted" for his criticism of the administration of Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun in a meeting that was held at the U.S. Embassy.

The sources said that they did not know where Ortiz made his remarks [as received] or who attended the meeting, but they confirmed the Foreign Ministry's annoyance over the ambassador's remarks, which constituted meddling in the domestic affairs of the country. The sources added that "relations with the United States were not adversely affected," although they maintained that "the criticisms made by Ortiz do not contribute to a relationship that has been historically difficult." They went on to say that "relations have not been easy because of the Argentine foreign debt and of the Argentine position on Central America," issues which have prompted episodes of confrontation in bilateral relations.

They recalled that "when President Alfonsin made a trip to Venezuela for the inauguration of Jaime Lusinchi, officials linked to the State Department termed the Argentine decision to grant a $50-million credit to Nicaragua for food imports as hostile toward the United States. These remarks were made at a bilateral U.S.-Argentine work commission organized during the brief visit to Caracas. The Argentine representatives took these remarks as "a warning that such feelings began at that level and moreover represented the thinking of the U.S. State Department."

The sources added that "the good wishes expressed by President Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz to the creditor banks to favor the renegotiation of the Argentine foreign debt have been just that -- wishes -- but that they evaded practical support or giving instruction to the banks."

JUDGE SUSPENDS ACTION ON BEAGLE PLEBISCITE

PY230231 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0045 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] Rio Gallegos, 22 Aug (TELAM) -- Federal Judge Federico Pinto Kramer tonight ordered the executive branch to refrain from complying with Decree 2277/84 plebiscite [convocatoria] on the Beagle issue) until he hands down a decision on an unconstitutionality motion and a petition for a court injunction filed by former Justicialist Senator Alberto Fonrouge. Judge Pinto Kramer ruled that the petition for a court injunction is admissible and sent a message through the presidential communications facilities to Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli, who will have to submit a detailed report to the court citing the reasons that led the executive branch to issue the decree in question. The interior minister will have to submit this report 5 days from today at 2000.

UN FALKLANDS VOTE CAUSES 'MODERATE OPTIMISM'

PY230234 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2205 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Aug (TELAM) -- The recent UN Decolonization Committee resolution on the Malvinas, which is favorable to Argentina, has given rise to moderate optimism over the upcoming 39th UN General Assembly, where the issue is slated to be discussed, according to information supplied by an Argentine Foreign Ministry spokesman today.

The decision of the Decolonization Committee, which was approved by 20 votes, none against, and 4 abstentions, leaves room for a broad range of interpretations. According to the spokesman, Argentina's diplomatic victory has improved the nation's prospects at the upcoming UN General Assembly scheduled to be opened on 24 September in New York.

By itself, the Decolonization Committee resolution does not add anything new to prior decisions, but it gives an insight into the debate and the way in which the approved proposal was submitted reflects certain changes that the composition of the vote has evidenced, the spokesman added.

It is stressed, for example, that the proposal was submitted by Chile, Cuba, and Venezuela, where the attention given to the Malvinas conflict is not waning, which shows that the events which unfolded as of 2 April 1982 are still a continental issue above and beyond ideological barriers. The source concluded by saying that Chile's relations with Venezuela and Cuba are hardly very cordial, nor has Fidel Castro's government overcome its severe conflicts with its Caracas counterpart. Thus, the motion is the result of diplomatic efforts which show that in practice there is a unity of interests in Latin America.

Furthermore, a highly reliable source at the Foreign Ministry has reported that the reasons which Australia, Sweden, and Trinidad and Tobago gave for their abstention were milder than on other occasions when the issue had come up at the Decolonization Committee and at the General Assembly. The spokesman indicated that the basis of the abstentions, which is a people's right to self-determination, allows us to believe that stepped up diplomatic efforts could yield positive results. It was recalled in this regard that this reason for abstaining is used disregarding the fact that the population of the Malvinas Islands is not native and is made up mostly of dependents of the Falkland Island Company, the landowning monopoly that is exploiting the natural resources of the islands.

Another smaller sign of the changing times is the vote of the Fiji Islands (a former British Pacific Ocean colony which still depends economically on the United Kingdom), which abstained for the first time after voting in favor of Great Britain in prior debates on the conflict.

The sources indicated that since the Decolonization Committee issued its resolution, the efforts of the Argentine Foreign Ministry diplomatic team seem to have been aimed at the position of the nations of Western Europe. In this regard, during his recent visit to Buenos Aires French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson stated that his country has never acknowledged any British rights over the islands. The persistent efforts targeted at the nations of Western Europe are designed to change the positions of Italy, Greece, France, and the FRG, which would enhance Argentina's prospects at the UN General Assembly. It is known that a great deal still remains to be done, the sources said. They also said that an article in THE WASHINGTON POST criticizing the United Kingdom for its unwillingness to discuss the Malvinas conflict is significant.

SPANISH EX-PRIME MINISTER SUAREZ DEPARTS

PY221732 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1617 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Aug (TELAM) -- Former Spanish Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez departed Ezeiza International Airport for Spain at 1220 [1520 GMT]. In a chat with journalists at the airport, the former Spanish official repeated that he will continue to be a member of the group of legal experts defending Uruguayan political Wilson Ferreira Aldunate.

CGT REJECTS GOVERNMENT PROPOSAL ON PAY HIKE

PY221639 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 22 Aug 84 p 1

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- The unified General Confederation of Labour (CGT) last night formally rejected the government-announced $a16,000 collective contract floor for August and demanded that public-sector workers be included in the $a13,000 minimum wage set for this month. CGT executive board members rejected the government floor whereby wage hikes would be granted to workers whose "basic" wages and pay bonuses total less than $a16,000. The CGT instead demanded that pay bonuses he excluded from the floor so that the $a16,000 would only refer to workers' basic wages.

"The $a16,000 minimum collective contract must not imply... the modification or annulment of contract clauses as in the cases of seniority and attendance bonuses, among others," the CGT said in a statement. The CGT said wages "continue to be insufficient since we are not willing to confront a recessive policy tied to the interests of the financial fatherland and to fight against the main enemy which is inflation."

CGT spokesmen said unionists from around the country would meet to possibly decide on strike action or a protest rally if the government does not give in to the new demands.

The Metal Workers' Union (UOM), the country's strongest industrial union with over 300,000 members, expressed its "total opposition" to the $a16,000 floor decided on by the government. In a statement issued yesterday, the UOM rejected the floor on the grounds that it "doesn't even reach half of the value of a (monthly) basket of family goods."

Meanwhile the Argentine Industrial Union (UIA) called on business, the government and unions to draw a "general plan of action" based on "an agreement on the reasons for the country's grave socio-economic situation." The UIA emphasized that the socio-economic contract talks must go beyond wages and prices and that only "organizations unquestionably representative in their sector" should be allowed to participate in the contract.

On the strike front, the Argentine University Federal (FUA) backed a 72-hour stoppage called by the Federation of University Employees (FATUN) which begins today. Leaders of the Buenos Aires University branch of the union backed the call though opposition unionists who yesterday ended a 14-day stoppage said they would not support the FATUN measures.

TREASURY CONTRIBUTIONS TO PROVINCES TO INCREASE

PY221405 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0248 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 21 Aug (TELAM) -- Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli, Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun, provincial economy ministers, and members of the congressional Budget and Finance Committees today agreed -- after a 2-day discussion -- to increase the national treasury contributions to the provinces by 10 billion pesos above the amount estimated in the draft budget for this year, it was officially announced tonight. The signatories of this agreement also agreed to formulate a new tax sharing system which will go into effect in 1985 and to request Congress to reestablish deposits by employers of 7.5 percent of all salaries to partially reduce the national treasury contributions to the social security system.

Another significant point, of the eight points agreed upon, is that the national executive branch and the provincial governments will reconcile their salary policies concerning the public sector in order to overcome existing imbalances and inequalities.

The document was released 2 hours after the agreement was reached. Due to their inflexible position, ministers and congressmen from opposition controlled provinces came close to blocking the agreement.

GOVERNMENT STUDYING CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS

PY230330 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2130 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Aug (NA) -- The executive branch is studying the possibility of next year calling a constituent assembly for constitutional reform, creating an office of a prime minister, and shortening the presidential term to 4 years with the possibility for reelection.

This was today reported by Radical Civic Union [UCR] sources, who also revealed that the draft law is being prepared by a small group of jurists headed by Augusto Mario Morello, an old UCR member who was a partner of former Minister Arturo Mor Roig, who is linked to the national line. Another jurist who is a partner of Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli and who has a law office at 500 Uruguay Street in this capital a few days ago reportedly began the task of implementing the instructions given by the government.

The UCR sources indicated that the group of experts is studying the background of the position of the prime minister in the democratic governments of Italy, the FRG, and France. The shortening of the presidential term, which is currently 6 years, to 4 years with the possibility of reelection is also under study.

The two proposals will be submitted by the UCR to the constituent assembly for constitutional reform after a draft law calling for the assembly is approved by Congress. The government proposal will be submitted to the National Congress in 1985.

Several political forces have in the past proposed the need for constitutional reform. The last amendments were approved in 1949 under the Peronist government and in 1956 after the revolution.

MOTHERS, COMMUNISTS PROTEST MENENDEZ APPEARANCE

PY220347 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0237 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Aug (TELAM) -- Members of the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo organization and Communist Party faithfuls held a rally in front of the television station Channel 13 in repudiation of the visit that General Luciano Benjamin Menendez, former commander of the III Army Corps, made to this station on the night of 21 August.

Gen Menendez went to the station in order to be interviewed for the "New Times" program which is aired at 2200. Before Gen Menendez arrived, the demonstrators gathered in front of the station, which is located on 2100 San Juan Street, to show their contempt for the presence of the former military commander. During the interview, Gen Menendez talked on the repression of subversion and on the Beagle issue.

COMMENTATOR DECRIES MEDIA 'DISINFORMATION'

PY230025 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 21 Aug 84 pp 1, 8

[J. Iglesias Rouco commentary: "Sorcerer's Apprentices"]

[Excerpt] The current constitutional government, like the previous military regime, the 1973-1976 Peronist government, and [the Ongania administration during] the so-called "Argentine revolution," is continuing to use information almost exclusively for political and diplomatic purposes and it does not care very much, to put it one way, whether or not the information is accurate. Sometimes, the government even invents "news" just to sound out "the people's mood" or to exert pressure. As always, the government does this not only through the immense "journalistic" apparatus of the state but also with the help of alleged "journalists" and "independent" news media whose business and survival are in its hands.

Lately, the flow of "news" -- disseminated through these channels and later "denied" by its own authors once they consider that their "news" has served their purpose -- is truly getting to the point of intoxicating the people because of its proliferation and characteristics. This not only confuses public opinion, but also shows the problem of the considerable lack of accurate information Argentina is putting up with. This problem tends to be deepened by the "tribelike" [tribalizacion] political division of the administration, which is being handled by many clans [capillas] with contradictory purposes and which are resorting to this method for mutual harassment. In other words, the disinformation process and the publicity "campaigns" are not even supervised by the government.

According to our sources, some of the most recent news of this sort embraces reports related to the alleged unrest in the government in the wake of the no less alleged "alarming reports" by the U.S. Embassy on Argentina's political and economic situation and to its lack of support of Grinspun's latest negotiations with the creditor banks and the IMF. Although we have not yet been able to determine the origin of this news, everything indicates that it was made -- the same as the subsequent "denials" -- by official circles to either pressure the State Department and Ambassador Ortiz or to hinder the talks that other official circles are holding with Washington. One way or the other, the only effect of this will certainly be an increase in tension and mutual distrust between Buenos Aires and Washington. This suggests that one or several of the leftist groups seeking this objective were involved in the maneuver.

OIL WORKERS BEGIN STRIKE; FUEL SUPPLY CUT OFF

PY221350 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Oil workers have decided to go on a nationwide indefinite strike as of today. This means that no fuel will be supplied either to the public transportation sector or to private consumers. The indefinite strike was begun by the administrative oil workers on 20 August. Gas and gasoline station personnel will join the stoppage today.

ARMY TRANSFERS MILITARY COURT MEMBERS TO RESERVES

PY221417 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Excerpt] The Army command has ordered that two members of the standing military court be transferred to the reserves. In two memos, the Army command explained that the decision was made in keeping with internal regulations.

The resolution came as the court was hearing the case of 7 youths who were captured in a guerrilla training camp, and the case of the disappearance of the guerrilla documents seized in 1967. The most important missing document is the diary of Ernesto Guevara. The resolution affects Colonels (Alejandro Urqueda) and (Romualdo Zarrate).

Military sources have pointed out that the transfer of the two court members to the reserves will automatically halt the legal proceedings in the cases being heard by the court until the Army command designates new court members.

It has been reported that the decision by the Army command has been criticized not only because of the urgent need to clarify the abovementioned issues, which have been the object of the Armed Forces' and the people's concern, but because military regulations have been disregarded. Cols (Urqueda) and (Zarrate) have served for 28 and 20 years, respectively. Officers must be sent into the reserve after 30 years of active duty, the military sources said.

GOVERNMENT, FOREIGN BANKS BEGIN DEBT NEGOTIATIONS

PY230244 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Chile has begun negotiations with private international banks to renegotiate its foreign debt. This was asserted by Economy Minister Modesto Collados upon leaving La Moneda Palace, where he had met with President Augusto Pinochet, President of Hanover Trust Harry Taylor, Finance Minister Luis Escobar, and Central Bank President Francisco Ibanez. Taylor, who is president of the bank heading the committee of 12 international banks, is participating in the renegotiation of the Chilean foreign debt. He revealed that it was a cordial protocol meeting. Economy Minister Modesto Collados said that Taylor brought greetings to President Pinochet. He added that Taylor will also meet with the other ministers and that he will meet with Taylor the day after tomorrow. Collados pointed out that the renegotiation of the foreign debt is on the right path and that relations with the IMF are good. He explained that the Chilean foreign debt is very large, that the interest rates are very high, and that he expects the international situation to improve. Collados emphasized that Chile is a good client and can pay its debt, and that therefore Chile will be able to get more loans in the future.

OPPOSITION CALLS PROTEST ACTION FOR 4, 5 SEPTEMBER

PY221523 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0331 GMT 22 Aug 84

[By Albino Mallo]

[Excerpts] Santiago, 21 Aug (EFE) -- The Popular Democratic Movement [MDP] Marxist coalition today stated that "the protest action slated for 4 and 5 September will confirm the progress in the fight by the opposition." During a press conference today, Christian Democratic Youth President Miguel Salazar expressed a similar view, stating that on 4 and 5 September "the people will answer the head of state."

Following the recent statements by General Augusto Pinochet, who was harshly critical of opposition members and even said that the 11 September 1973 event could be repeated, MDP President Manuel Almeyda read a communique which says that "Pinochet reiterated the dictatorial inclination that he had expressed to THE NEW YORK TIMES." According to Almeyda, the progress made by the opposition "has disturbed the dictatorship and it has caused Pinochet to threaten repeating the 1973 genocide to stop the people's growing progress toward freedom." The MDP leader said that this threat "is a provocation to the entire country, including the Armed Forces. Pinochet is trying to get Armed Forces personnel to commit another crime against the people with the excuse of fighting Chile's internal enemies, who for Pinochet are those who raise the banners of real patriotism and democracy."

During the press conference, Miguel Salazar announced his intention to file a slander suit against the head of state. He added that General Pinochet's recent statements "prove correct the Democratic Alliance's position that Pinochet must resign from office in order for democracy to be restored." Salazar termed offensive a statement made against him by Pinochet during a working breakfast with foreign journalists.

The upcoming national protest has been called by the Democratic Alliance, which is made up of the Christian Democratic Party, the Social Democratic Party, the Republican Right, the Radical Party, and the Socialist bloc. The National Workers Command, a multiunion organization which includes several large federations and confederations and is headed by Rodolfo Seguel, has endorsed the measure.

The MDP (Marxist) also participated in the call. The protest action is being organized by a social mobilization command, which is made up of representatives from all sectors opposed to the military regime.

DEMONSTRATORS PROTEST TORTURE NEAR LA MONEDA

PY230242 Paris AFP in Spanish 2129 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Santiago, 22 Aug (AFP) -- It was reported here today that 100 demonstrators arrived in the neighborhood of La Moneda Presidential Palace in Santiago where they demanded that an end be put to torture. The demonstrators were all members of the Sebastian Acevedo Movement Against Torture, named after a worker who set fire to himself in November last year demanding the release of his two children, who had been arrested by the security services of the military government. During the rally, the demonstrators read an open letter addressed to Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa urging him to publicly state his opposition to torture. "Mr Minister, Yes or No to Torture" read one of the signs that the demonstrators were carrying. After a few minutes the group departed without any incidents with the police.

STUDENTS, POLICE CLASH IN VALPARAISO, SANTIAGO

PY230352 Paris AFP in Spanish 0334 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] Valparaiso, 20 Aug (AFP) -- The police today repressed hundreds of students who were trying to stage an unauthorized march in the main Chilean port. One person was injured, five were arrested, and considerable damage to property resulted from the clashes. The march took place near the Valparaiso Catholic University, where students shouted slogans against General Augusto Pinochet's government and clashes with special Carabineros detachments. Backed up by water cannons and using tear gas bombs and truncheons, the police moved against the students, who had erected barricades and hurled stones breaking the windows of the School of Engineering and the main building of the university. Student sources indicated that Benjamin Prado, a student, was injured in the face by splinters of a tear gas bomb. The police reported that five youths were arrested after the incidents and are being held at a police station in Valparaiso, which is 140 km northeast of Santiago. A similar incident took place in Santiago, where approximately 100 students of the teacher's school stoned policemen in a clash. No arrests were made in that case.

REPORTAGE ON BOMBINGS IN SANTIAGO, OTHER CITIES

FPMR Claims Attacks

PY221515 Paris AFP in Spanish 0355 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Santiago, 21 Aug (AFP) -- Five bomb attacks which caused blackouts and damage to electricity installations and railroads were recorded tonight in different rural sectors of Greater Santiago, but no casualties have been reported.

In Melipilla, 60 km to the west, and in the neighboring town of Maipu, three bomb explosions affected some high-tension power pylons and left several towns in darkness, while another explosion affected the railroad linking Santiago to the port of San Antonio.

A total of nine dynamite attacks were recorded during the past 24 hours in Vina del Mar, Santiago, Rancagua, Curico, Talchuano, and Temuco, damaging electricity and telephone installations, bank branch offices, and post offices.

Through telephone calls to the communications media, the self-styled Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front [FPMR] has taken credit for these attacks.

An anonymous caller said that the FPMR, which the government claims to be the armed branch of the outlawed Communist Party, will continue carrying out this type of action in repudiation of General Augusto Pinochet's regime. In September he will complete 11 years in power.

Explosion in Santiago Suburb

PY220343 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0333 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Santiago, 21 Aug (EFE) -- A bomb tonight exploded in a suburb of this capital without causing any injuries, according to Carabineros. The attack took place at 2130 local time (0130 GMT) damaging a street light post.

RETAIL BUSINESS LEADER RESIGNS FROM COUNCIL

PY222132 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Report by Manuela Robles]

[Text] (Eduardo Garin Zea), secretary general of the Retail Businessmen's Confederation, has resigned as a member of the Socioeconomic Council.

In a letter addressed to Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa, the chairman of the Socioeconomic Council, (Garin Zea), stated that as is public knowledge, the executive board of the Retail Businessmen's Confederation has unanimously agreed to suspend any dialogue or talks with the government authorities until some tax laws are repealed.

(Garin Zea) told Interior Minister Jarpa that this resolution also includes a decision to refrain from participating in government organizations such as the Socioeconomic Council. This is a consequence, (Garin Zea) said, of the situation Retail Businessmen's Confederation Chairman Rafael Cumsille has been experiencing.

(Garin Zea) added: We believe Cumsille is being harassed, as is stated in the attached photocopy of our resolution. Therefore, I believe I should tender my resignation as a member of the Socioeconomic Council, because I will not be attending any meeting of the council until this problem is resolved.

It should be noted that Patronato retail businessmen have invited Cumsille to attend a meeting at which they will convey to him their solidarity in this difficult court battle that he has been fighting. To this end, they will close their stores early this afternoon.

DETAILS OF AGREEMENT WITH M-19, EPL DISCLOSED

PA221920 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 18 Aug 84 pp 1 A, 8 A

[Report by Cesar Valencia]

[Text] The Popular Liberation Army (EPL) and the 19 April Movement (M-19) will definitely lay down their weapons and end hostilities on 30 August. Immediately afterward, they will propose to the government the creation of a national constituent assembly, with members elected through popular vote, which would advocate substantial constitutional amendments.

On the same day -- according to the peace agreement to be signed between the government and the two groups -- President Belisario Betancur will order the Armed Forces to cease their actions against the two guerrilla movements. EPL and M-19 members who persist in their guerrilla actions and who refuse to accept the truce will be excluded from the presidential order.

The peace agreement -- if there are no last minute obstacles -- will definitely be signed by the two groups on Thursday, 23 August, at a ceremony to be held in Medellin. Members of opposition parties from 10 countries, including France, Spain, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Ecuador, Bolivia, and Venezuela will be invited.

Also on 23 August, when the cease-fire agreement with the EPL and the M-19 is signed, the government will announce the creation of a "national dialogue commission," with the participation of members from the two guerrilla groups, spokesmen from the political parties, from Congress, from the verification commission, the Peace Commission, and union leaders.

The EPL will sign the peace agreement with the government at Antioquia's government house at noon. Simultaneously -- according to the plans -- the M-19 will adhere to the pact in Cauca. There will be a popular meeting at the Nutibara plaza at 1600, to celebrate the truce between the two groups and the government.

Constituent Assembly

The constituent assembly that the two groups will propose to the government, and that is to be elected by popular vote, will be responsible for drafting the constitutional amendments that -- according to the EPL and the M-19 -- will facilitate the democratic opening.

The proposal calls for the assembly to pursue modifications to citizens' political rights, socio-economic changes, agrarian reform, solution to the foreign debt issue and the country's fiscal problem.

A national constituent assembly was proposed for the first time by the government of former president Alfonso Lopez Michelsen, but the initiative failed because of a decision of the Supreme Court of Justice.

After the peace agreement is signed by the two groups, it will require President Belisario Betancur's validation, and its approval is subject to his decision. It has been said however, that the president is aware of the final text of the agreement, has approved it, and has accepted the points inserted bilaterally by the negotiators -- the Peace Commission, the EPL, and the M-19.

The Agreement

The agreement that the government and the two groups will sign next Thursday basically includes six points, broken down into clauses. Although there could be a last-minute change in the place where the agreement will be signed in Medellin, as of last night the site selected was the Government House.

EL TIEMPO has learned that the document will include the following topics:

1. Criteria on the cease-fire.
2. Retention of persons. The two groups agree not to hold hostages after the signing of the agreement.
3. Presidential order on the attitude to be assumed by the Armed Forces.
4. Exceptions to the presidential order, stating that individuals who persist on the armed struggle will be subject to counter measures.
5. Support for the investigations being conducted by the Attorney General's Office.
6. Strengthening and restoration of normalcy for the civilian population.
7. Political opening.
8. Characteristics of the national dialogue.
9. National dialogue commission.
10. Presidential approval.
11. Effective date of the agreement (as of 30 August)

On behalf of the EPL, the agreement will be signed by Ernesto Rojas and Oscar William Calvo, the seven members of the central executive committee, and Fernando Caraballo and Ernesto Rojas, members of the national command. Andres Almarales, Alvaro Fayad, and the members of the national command will sign the agreement on behalf of the M-19.

Guerrilla Leaders' Communique

PA222318 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Several guerrilla leaders agreed during a meeting that national dialogue offers an important opportunity for the people to speak out and achieve true liberty to fight for their causes. These leaders reaffirmed in a communique that, above all, national dialogue must constitute a great political debate, a wide-ranging referendum that will allow the people's participation in the analysis and decision-making in the political, economic, and social changes the country needs.

We have agreed that the La Uribe pact [not further identified] and the agreements concluded by the Communist Party of Colombia, the Popular Liberation Army [EPL], the 19 April Movement [M-19], and the national government represent a major achievement by the Colombian people, who are under constant threats by overt as well as hidden actions of the enemies of peace. Thus ended the communique signed by EPL Secretary Francisco Caraballo and Manuel Marulanda Velez [Commander of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia].

FARC, EPL, M-19 To Unite

PA221810 Parish AFP in English 1744 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Bogota, Aug 22 (AFP) -- Two leftist guerrilla groups which plan to sign tomorrow a cease-fire with the government jointly announced today that they and a third group would form a united front to pursue their political objectives by peaceful means. The country's largest guerrilla organization, the communist 15,000-member Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), and the Popular Liberation Army (EPL), which is Maoist, said they would join forces with the April 19 Movement, a nationalist group known as the M-19.

They pledged to fight together against the "enemies of peace" and for an end to the state of emergency, as well as for wide-ranging government reforms they expect in return for putting down arms.

The FARC was the first to sign a cease-fire with the government of President Belisario Betancur, on May 28. The M-19 and the EPL are expected to sign tomorrow simultaneously an immediate end to hostilities with the government.

One guerrilla group has refused to follow the others. The pro-Cuban National Liberation Army today displayed its commitment to armed struggle by killing seven policemen in an attack near the border with Venezuela that also left four guerrillas dead.

Officials said the agreement with the M-19 was thrown into doubt after 200 M-19 guerrillas on Aug. 10 attacked the town of Yumbo, in the southwest, leaving 37 people dead. That attack was in retaliation to the murder the day before of Carlos Toledo Plata, an M-19 founder who had been active in negotiating the truce.

POLICE, ELN CLASH ALONG VENEZUELAN BORDER

PA221806 Parish AFP in Spanish 1422 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Bogota, 22 Aug (AFP) -- Seven Colombian policemen were killed today in a clash with guerrillas of the National Liberation Army, ELN, on the Colombian-Venezuelan border, the Colombian radio network RCN has reported in Bogota. The report states that a warrant officer and six policemen were killed in the clash that [words indistinct] in the village of Betoyes. It adds that a column of the ELN -- which refuses to negotiate a truce with the Colombian Government -- attempted to cross the border into Venezuela but that the Venezuelan National Guard prevented them from doing so.

According to RCN the clash broke out when the ELN guerrillas were making their way back into Colombia and they encountered a patrol of the Colombian police. It is said that the two groups continue to fight and that there are several wounded on both sides.

BRIEFS

NEW OIL RESERVES --The reserves discovered in the area of Cravo Norte at the Cano Limon, La Yuca-1, and Matanegra-1 wells will yield 290 million barrels of oil. Colombian Petroleum Enterprise [Ecopetrol] and the mines ministry have reported that complementary projects for the exploitation of the wells will cost millions of dollars. The largest investment will be the pipeline which will cost $300 million and have a capacity of 90,000 barrels daily. Thus far, the proven production of the wells is 95,000 barrels daily. [Summary] [Bogota El TIEMPO in Spanish 17 Aug 84 p 5 B PA]

AMBASSADOR TO PHILLIPINES -- Today, Ramiro Zambrano Cardenas, current ambassador to South Korea, was appointed new nonresident ambassador to the Phillipines. [Summary] [Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Aug 84 PA]

ALVA ORLANDINI ON POSSIBLE AP-PPC COALITION

PY221345 Lima Cadena America Television in Spanish 0330 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Popular Action [AP] presidential candidate Javier Alva Orlandini has commented on a possible alliance with the Popular Christian Party [PPC]. Alva Orlandini has stated that the dreams of an alliance between his party and the PPC can become a reality, especially because a political consensus exists between the two parties. Regarding the designation of a candidate for the alliance, he said that this is secondary.

SHINING PATH KILLS 12; 'CLANDESTINE CEMETERY' FOUND

PY220325 Paris AFP in Spanish 0051 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Ayacucho, 21 Aug (AFP) -- About 60 Shining Path members yesterday killed 12 people, including a teacher, in a surprise attack on Cayara, 145 km south of Ayacucho, reported municipal officials of that area who arrived in Ayacucho this afternoon.

Yesterday afternoon military units left this city for the Huancevelica Department, apparently to carry out a vast military operation against subversives who have been active in some areas of that zone.

People coming from Mayoc, a town located on the road from Huanta (Ayacucho) to Huancayo, capital of the Junin Department in the center area of Peru, today reported the discovery in that city of a clandestine cemetery where 30 people have reportedly been buried.

It has been reportedly that members of the State Prosecutor's office will go to that town early tomorrow morning to verify that report.

In the meantime, concerned peasant leaders are coming to this city to ask the military-political command to send troops to their towns because the police units have been withdrawn, leaving the towns unprotected.

Regarding another matter, the distribution of voter identification booklets necessary to vote began today in this city and the nearby towns after having been delayed over 1 month compared with the rest of the country.

FORMER COMMUNIST DEPUTY RELEASED FROM PRISON

PY221837 Paris AFP in Spanish 1625 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Montevideo, 22 Aug (AFP) -- Reliable sources have reported that Selva Barcelli, former councilwoman and Uruguayan Communist deputy, detained since 1976, was set free during the past few hours. The 46-year-old deputy succeeded in achieving public office when she ran for the leftist Broad Front coalitiion during the 1971 general elections. Various countries and sectors have been demanding for a long time that she be set free.

Her Italian descent provoked complaints from personalities of the Italian Government and prompted the organization of a women's movement to struggle for her freedom. A delegation of that movement was scheduled to arrive in Montevideo in the near future. The deputy had been sentenced to 16 years of imprisonment but because a review of the case carried out by the military court recently, her sentence was reduced by half.

Barcelli was being held among detainess with health problems due to deafness affecting both ears and heart problems.

D'ELIA ABANDONS SOCIALIST PARTY, JOINS LIST 99

PY221839 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Professor German D'Elia has abandoned the Socialist Party in disagreement over the Marxist-Leninist position that the party has adopted and has told El Espectador, Radio Sport, and Cadena de Oro that he has joined the List 99 group.

[Begin D'Elia recording] I have abandoned the Socialist Party because I disagree with its doctrine. Since in no way do I agree with the party's Marxist-Leninist stand, I have broken all ties with the Socialist Party. However, I remain a Broad Front member. I have frequently held cordial talks with List 99 leaders such as Batalla and Martinez Moreno and with the Socialist sector over the creation of a new movement, which List 99 has already defined as a socialist democratic movement. [end recording]

GOVERNMENT APPROVES PRIVATE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

PY230337 Paris AFP in Spanish 0044 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] Montevideo, 22 Aug (AFP) -- It was officially announced tonight that the Uruguayan Military Government today approved the establishment of a private Catholic university that will be named after Damasco Antonio Larranga. The university, the first of its kind to be allowed to function in Uruguay, which in keeping with an amendment to the education law which dates back to the end of the last century has a public education system free of charge and run by laymen, will teach philosophy, psychology, social communications, and social services.

Damasco Antonio Larranaga was a priest and teacher who joined national hero Jose Artigas in his struggle against Spanish rule at the beginning of the last century. Only primary and secondary private schools had previously been authorized by the government. The decree authorizing the establishment of the Catholic university was released together with another decree which officially lifted government intervention of the national university, which had been in effect since October 1973 when the current ruling military regime assumed power.

EL DIA HAILS LIFTING OF PRESS RESTRICTIONS

PY230204 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 9 Aug 84 p 4

[Editorial: "Another Step Forward"]

[Text] The government has just repealed a decree issued on 2 August 1983. This decree not only imposed major restrictions on political activities but also restricted freedom of information. Therefore, we cannot but welcome this decision, which reflects a realistic approach to the times we are passing through and which shows that the government has listened to the repeated popular demands made by political representatives at the negotiating table since the time of the predialogue period.

It could be contended that this decree was no longer being enforced since both political groups and press organizations were acting beyond the limits established in it. Although this is true, it is also true that this decree was still being used as a deterrent aginst society, which should play the leading role both in politics and information, and that the government was still reluctant to relinquish this instrument of repression. Now things have changed and an arbitrary decree which, fortunately, already seemed obsolete and which had been clamping down on political and press activities has been removed. The repeal of this decree has also proved that the decision to enter into negotiations was the right one, since it has been instrumental in putting into motion a mechanism that would make mobilizations yield effective, practical results.

Those who assumed -- without taking into account the express, repeated clarifications made by the civilians participating in the dialogue -- that an agreement between the opposition and the military would be useless, and viewed the entire situation as unchangeable, should now reconsider their position. The agreement on institutional guidelines is part of a new general dynamics which has not closed any channels but rather has opened new ones toward democracy. The repeal of the notorious decree issued in August 1983 is tangible proof of this assertion and shows what type of action should be taken in the future and that biased views which only focus on certain aspects of a comprehensive, complex reality should be set aside. We previously said this when the agreement was signed, but we want to repeat it here again: Democratization is an ongoing process that is clearly on the right course and no one should spare any sound, timely effort aimed at pursuing those goals which are yet to be attained.

We must also note -- because there are still forgetful ones -- that we are still living under a de facto regime, that our tenacious efforts in promoting mobilizations and negotiations -- which must always go together -- can still be directed toward many areas since there are still many goals to be achieved: Among others, and first of all, we must seek to remove all restrictions on both individuals and ideas so that we can have the broad pluralist system we all -- democrats at least -- should demand. In the meantime, we are taking steps and are moving forward, thus making elbow room for democracy until reaching that time when all institutions will function freely. If one looks at this situation with a minimum degree of objectivity, one cannot regard these remarks as false or overenthusiastic. On the contrary, we are faced with facts which clearly prove that although not everything has been achieved, much has been achieved; that what has been achieved allows us to state that the strategy followed was the right one; and that intransigent positions favored by some would have subjected us to contingent situations which would make us subjects and not agents of politics.

Therefore, as we welcome the repeal of this decree with due satisfaction, we must renew our commitment to continue to get involved in actions, to sponsor them, to promote them, and to demand them. We already have proof that passiveness -- even if it is disguised behind a facade of angry protest -- is useless and, worst of all, is weakening and discouraging because it forces us into isolation. Let us then continue to move on this path, which will ultimately take us to democracy.

ANNOUNCED MILK PRICE INCREASE CRITICIZED

WA231011 Rome IPS in English 21 Aug 84

[By Alejandro Kirk]

[Text] Caracas, Aug. 21 (IPS) -- The Venezuelan Government noted today that an announced price increase in milk and the suspension of bean imports had caused shortages, and warned that anyone guilty of price speculation or hoarding will be severely punished. The national commission on costs, prices and salaries, which includes government, trade union and business representatives, agreed last week to eliminate state subsidies on milk products, which will almost double prices. Prices have not risen yet, but immediately after the announcement, pasteurized and powdered milk disappeared from store shelves. The announced price increase also provoked a debate over how the measure will affect lower-income families. The price of pasteurized milk will rise from 30 to 70 cents per liter, while powdered milk, mainly used for baby food, will increase from $3.85 to $7.20 per one-pound can.

Meanwhile, the government reacted to reports of irregularities by the State Agricultural Market Corporation (CMA) in importing 34,000 tons of black beans by suspending the imports and intervening in the CMA, which was in the process of liquidation. CMA executives had apparently manipulated an auction so that Venezuela bought Argentine and Chilean beans at higher prices than beans offered by a U.S. firm. The purchase reportedly cost Venezuela an extra $3.8 million. CMA President Oswaldo Cabrera issued a statement to police last night, while private importers denied that there had been irregular business dealings. The investigations have not proven the CMA guilty, but the charges were only the latest against the corporation, which President Jaime Lusinchi ordered to liquidate after it was accused of large-scale fraud and registered losses of three billion dollars.

The Consumer Protection Agency (SPC) announced today that an operation is under way to control hoarding and price speculation, and warned that violators will be severely punished.

One of the two representatives of the progovernment Confederation of Venezuelan Workers (CTV) on the cost and price commission, Jose Miguel Uzcategui, charged today that the milk price increase was decided while he was "in the bathroom." Uzcategui, a Christian Democrat, said that all the other commission members told him in a joking manner that they had eliminated the $330 million annual state subsidy to milk producers, and said he did not believe it.

Meanwhile, pediatricians at the Caracas children's hospital reported that for the first time in years, they are seeing child malnutrition cases at the rate of ten per day. They predicted that the malnutrition problem will worsen in coming days.

Members of the ruling Democratic Action Party (AD) and opposition groups in the Caracas municipal council agreed yesterday to demand that Development Minister Hector Hurtado explain the price increases.

The milk price rise is the second major increase under Lusinchi's government, which took office in February. In April, the administration lifted price controls on high-quality meat, which then rose 70 percent. The government has announced that packets of powdered milk will be made available to needy citizens at reduced prices. The measure has not calmed the criticism, however. The administration has predicted that inflation will not top 16 percent this year, but critics say the official figures are too optimistic. So far the CTV has not taken a stand in the debate, but acting AD Secretary General Humberto Celli defended the elimination of the milk subsidy today, arguing that such measures are "the country's response to the economic crisis." Some AD sectors and the Christian Democratic and leftist opposition maintain that the new prices will make salary increases necessary, but Celli said that new jobs are needed more than better wages.

PSUM WARNS U.S. INVASION OF COSTA RICA 'POSSIBLE'

PA230203 Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 20 Aug 84 p A 12

[Article by Antonio Gil Vargas]

[Text] The United Socialist Party of Mexico, PSUM, has warned about a possible U.S. invasion of Costa Rica to defend the interests of transnational companies which exploit that country's fruit resources, adding that this would worsen the Central American problem and definitely undermine the Contadora Group's peace contacts.

PSUM spokesman Jaime Trejo said that the difficult situation prevailing in Costa Rica is part of the Ronald Reagan administration's plans to undermine the Latin American peoples' struggle for independence, especially on the Central American isthmus. He added that the country, known throughout the world for its neutrality and which has been called "the American Switzerland," is facing an internal crisis because of economic pressures being used by U.S. imperialism to modify its external policy. "The United States is trying to turn past Costa Rican support for Nicaragua into opposition to the Sandinist junta."

He pointed out that many of the interventionist wars waged by the United States are based on "the defense of U.S. interests." In this case it would be the banana plantations, which are paralyzed because of a strike. The workers are currently challenging the government, and the U.S. Government is trying to use this an an excuse for intervention.

The United States is trying to manipulate that Central American country's problems so that Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge will adopt a radical internal and external policy against the workers and Nicaragua. This situation would gravely endanger the situation throughout the region and seriously undermine the Contadora Group's efforts to achieve peace; these efforts have always been ignored by the United States, he added.

"The Mexican people must remain alert regarding the Central American situation to prevent a U.S. intervention with "protectionist" goals, since this would represent a danger of war in the isthmian countries and Mexico," he concluded.

DISEASES DETECTED AMONG GUATEMALAN REFUGEES

FL221952 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1833 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Mexico City, 22 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- Outbreaks of diseases that have already been eradicated in Mexico are being identified in the Guatemalan refugee settlements (in the southeastern part of the country). The diseases include malaria, tuberculosis, and rheumatic fever. Javier Cervantes Rangel, chief of preventive medicine at the Mexican Social Security Institute (IMSS), made this announcement, adding that IMSS medical assistance brigades are making extensive efforts to neutralize the problems presented by the 40,000 Guatemalans who are in Mexico. Training and education programs have been started in personal hygiene and home food preparation and sanitation. Cervantes said the IMSS had intensified its activities in the States of Chiapas, Tabasco, and Campeche, where numerous cases of tuberculosis, rheumatic fever, malnutrition, and malaria have been detected.

BELIZE

PUBLIC HEALTH AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH MEXICO

FL230120 Belize City Domestic Service in English 0100 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Summary From Poor Reception] The signing ceremony of a joint statement of intent to coordinate public health activities in the border areas of Mexico and Belize was signed this morning in Belize City. Belizean Prime Minister George Price delivered the welcome address.

COSTA RICA

SECURITY MINISTER NAMED AMBASSADOR TO MEXICO

FL211940 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1900 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Excerpt] San Jose, 21 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- Costa Rican Security Minister Angel Edmundo Solano Calderon was named as his country's new ambassador to Mexico, it was reported today in this city. Solano Calderon, who confirmed the report, will turn the Security Ministry over to his successor, Benjamin Piza, on 30 August.

COMMUNIST PARTY SCORES CIVIL REGISTRY BAN

PA221758 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Manuel Delgado, president of the Costa Rican Communist Party, has stated that there are no legal grounds for impeding the registration of his party in the civil registry. Delgado has explained that his party fills all the requirements for requesting registration and for this reason he believes that the civil registry director's decision to deny registration was based on ideologic bias against the party. Manuel Delgado said this situation represents a clear violation of Costa Rican laws since there is no basis for denying registration.

EL SALVADOR

MILITARY SOURCES DENY ALLEGED INTERNAL DIVISION

PA230143 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Military sources have said there is no internal division within the Army, although General Staff Chief Colonel Adolfo Oneciforo Blandon and Colonel Domingo Monterrosa have made contradictory statements about whether more U.S. advisers are needed to fight the country's guerrillas.

Col Blandon told LATIN-REUTER last Tuesday that for the time being no more advisers are needed to fight the guerrillas. On the other hand, Col Monterrosa said that, at least in the eastern area, more trainers are needed, no matter where they come from. Army officers maintain that there is no internal division and that this kind of incident is normal in a professional Army.

COLONEL MONTERROSA DISCUSSES CURRENT OPERATIONS

PA221200 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Colonel Domingo Monterrosa Barrios, 3d Infantary Brigade commander in San Miguel, statement to unidentified reporter; date, place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpt] Thank you very much my friend for the opportunity to report to the Salvadoran people, especially those in the eastern area. I would like to tell them about the work of the 3d Infantry Brigade that operates in the entire eastern area, especially in Morazan, La Union, and San Miguel Departments.

I would like to reiterate that our operations there are permanent. Our military operations mainly depend on the situation as it develops and the available information regarding the enemy. They not only take into account the enemy's operations, but also other aspects of national interest such as production. In the eastern area, we direct our efforts toward the productive sectors and, in fact, we take them into account in our plans.

I would like to limit my statement because I do not want to place anyone in an awkward position because we work for the majority; that is, for all Salvadoran people. We don't work for any specific social class. Therefore, we have troops working in northern and northwestern San Miguel. We always try to maintain troops there. As usual, the enemy has been evasive; they have been fleeing to avoid confrontations with us. Actually, within this area we are practically facing an enemy that is smaller each day. Their troops have not only experienced a decrease in combative spirit, but also in the number of fighters as well. Area residents can attest to the fact that the number of terrorists in the area has decreased. Only small groups are now visible. I understand that this is the result of our permanent operations in the area.

The enemy has referred to an offensive; in fact, the U.S. Army itself has commented on an offensive to take place during the next few months. This is why our operation is partially aimed at detecting the presence of and capturing terrorists. This week we have already noticed the presence of terrorists. Moreover, we confirmed that the enemy has been able to obtain weapons, especially ammunition and even some war materiel including rifles and [word indistinct] such as the RPG-7. We confirmed this 3 days ago in Santa Cruz Canton south of San Miguel and near El Nino and El Amate. A terrorist group was carrying these kinds of weapons that had not been previously seen or detected. The terrorists launched an attack, but were unsuccessful in view of the agility of our troops.

However, the terrorists practically destroyed the small school in the Santa Cruz Canton, but our troops had already left that location. We seized remnants of RPG-7 ammunition that was imported; that is, it arrived for the terrorists via Nicaragua. I say via Nicaragua because we have also confirmed the arrival of a weapons shipment near El Semillero toward the area of Sesori, El Espiritu Santo, La Joya, San Gerardo, and in towns even further north. We learned about this from residents who spoke with us. They confirmed the passage of ammunition shipments and crates bound for the north through those areas.

However, our troops, especially those in south San Miguel and La Union Departments, have orders to curtail these kinds of shipments, but it seems like the terrorists have been sending shipments to areas further to the west, toward (Jucuaran), (El Destino), and other locations.

In addition, our troops are also operating in those northern areas. All of them are being mobilized and, as I stated, the clashes have been minor ones because the enemy continues to evade combat. Nevertheless, we have already noticed a greater presence over the past few days. Apparently, the enemy has gathered somewhere. The enemy has changed its fighting tactics somewhat and has concentrated on staging ambushes similar to the ones they have used in the past. This is why we mourn the death of several soldiers who fell heroically in combat in Morazan, specifically in Gotera, and here in San Miguel. Other soldiers were wounded, but thanks to God they are already recovering. One of the ambushes occurred near Lolotiquillo, north of San Francisco Gotera and the other took place north of San Miguel near Agua Zarca village and canton. Here we mourned the death of four soldiers and suffered 11 injuries. In Morazan, we suffered 17 injuries, most of which were not serious.

In any case, we are trying to see how we can counter the enemy's ambushes. This is part of the war. We are also seeking ways to cause more damage to the enemy ranks. I would like to ask the eastern area people to have confidence in us and to feel safe with us. We are shedding our blood because we believe in our people; this is precisely why we are doing it.

Our pain, sacrifices and all of our wills and wishes are to be able to channel all these sacrifices, wishes, and wills to benefit the people, the general public, and no one else. It is not for the benefit of any specific class, but only for the general public.

On other occasions, I have told the humble people, especially the hardworking people of this needy area that have been caught in the middle of the conflict, that our operations are targeted toward the areas where they live because of military considerations and not because of any specific groups. Hence, we are and will continue to fight until we achieve peace, which is the most precious wish of all Salvadoran people.

ARMY OPERATION ENDS AMID OTHER REBEL ATTACKS

PA222326 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Leftist guerrillas blew up a high-tension tower this morning in Usulutan Department, leaving at least 10 towns in that eastern area without electricity. In the vicinity of El Paisnal and San Juan Opico, a counterinsurgency operation launched last Sunday and which involved the Atlacatl Battalion, artillery forces, and 1st Brigade troops, as well as troops from the El Paisnal and Aguilares military headquarters, concluded last night.

Military sources reported little contact with leftists in Las Ventanas, Amayo, and El Jicaro. In those clashes which did occur, several soldiers were wounded. Counterinsurgency troops killed eight rebels. This morning two explosions on the outskirts of Apopa hit high-tension towers near the Santa Teresa neighborhood. Two power pylons were knocked down, and the northern area of San Salvador was left without power.

Meanwhile, the strike against railway service to the country's interior, especially to the east and west, is in force for the 3d consecutive day. Officials of Fenadesal, the Salvadoran National Railway, told our newscast that the strike will continue as long as the air support demanded by ground workers as well as railway security to protect them from the leftist guerrillas is not provided. According to official sources, eight guerrillas and five soldiers were among the casualties over the 5 days [as heard] of operations in the El Paisnal area.

COMMUNIQUE REPORTS YOUTHS ABDUCTED IN YAMABAL

PA230223 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Armed Forces Press Committee, Correfa, communique issued in San Salvador on 22 August]

[Text] The FMLN has abducted youths in Yamabal. Residents of La Candelilla Canton, Yamabal jurisdiction in eastern Morazan Department, reported to the authorities the abduction of 30 area youths who were at a dance. The extremists burst into the establishment and forced the youths to go with them. The youths' relatives said that they were taken to Lajitas village. Another report stated that two terrorists were killed and others wounded during a clash yesterday with 6th Infantry Brigade troops near Santiago de Maria, Usulutan Department. The Armed Forces are constantly patrolling that area to fight FMLN groups operating there.

Meanwhile, two FMLN deserters, with the pseudonyms "Tejano" and "Quique," appeared before troops headquartered near (Choloaiquine) and Morazan. They turned in an FAL rifle, an AR-15 rifle, clips, and ammunition.

GUATEMALA

ORPA REVIEWS 20 JULY-7 AUGUST ACTIONS

PA230046 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 22 Aug 84 p 4

[Text] In a telex sent to this newspaper, the Revolutionary Organization of the People in Arms, ORPA, claimed it inflicted many casualties on the Army and destroyed a military truck in San Marcos in actions from 20 July to 7 August.

The report noted that the insurgents clashed with the Army on five occasions and ambushed the Army's special forces twice. The rebels also claim to have broken a military siege which began on 4 August and ended on 7 August near the Montealegre farm, in which more than 600 soldiers of the Otonca Battalion, from the Santa Ana Berlin Detachment based in Suchitepequez, participated.

ORPA added that on 7 August the Army deployed 105-mm artillery at the soccer field in San Pablo, San Marcos, and together with helicopters and planes of the Guatemalan Air Force, FAG, Eagle Squad, bombed this densely populated area. The report added that the rebels suffered eight casualties. In addition, the report noted that ORPA seized 21 rifles during 6 occupations of coffee farms from 20 July to 1 August in Xicacao, Suchitepequez. The weapons were taken from members of the Civil Defense patrols.

NICARAGUA

RAMIREZ ON POSSIBILITY OF U.S. AGGRESSION, AIPORT

PA230220 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] The U.S. aggression against the Nicaraguan people has neither a date nor a deadline, said Dr Sergio Ramirez Mercado, member of the Government Junta of National Reconstruction. Ramirez Mercado explained that it is cynical on the part of the Reagan administration to say the new airport being built in Nicaragua is the cause of the aggression. They attack us from Honduras and build airports in that country, Ramirez said, noting that the Nicaraguan people must form a single front to take up arms and defend the revolution. The following were exclusive statements by Dr Ramirez Mercado to the "Extra Newscast":

[Begin recording] [Ramirez] An aggression by the United States against Nicaragua has neither a date nor a deadline. It could be today, tomorrow, the day after tomorrow, or before or after November. The U.S. Government has built a complete, aggressive apparatus against Nicaragua from Honduras with the construction of airports, military and training bases, continuous military maneuvers, the sending of warships, and so forth, in a permanent menacing attitude. We consider an aggressive action against Nicaragua to be a real possibility. The claims that the cause for such an action would be the construction of a new airport in Nicaragua are cynical on the part of a government that has built dozens of air bases in Honduras and now tears at its clothes in a rage because Nicaragua is building an alternate airport to our international Cesar Augusto Sandino Airport. This is only a pretext for a permanent menacing attitude of aggression. It would be unfortunate, but we are prepared for such a contingency.

[Unidentified reporter] In view of this menacing attitude on the part of the government of Ronald Reagan, what can you say to the Nicaraguan people now, when an electoral process is underway?

[Ramirez] We are in an electoral process, but first of all we are at war. The elections must not make us forget that the main problem here is the war and the aggression we face; that the elections are only a mechanism in the defense of the country and nothing else. And we must consider them within the framework of generalized war affecting our country through the current military aggression. [end recording]

ANPP PRESIDENT REFUTES SHULTZ' 'FALSE' STATEMENT

PA221226 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Text] Repression in Nicaragua, if it can be called that, is only against the counterrevolutionaries attacking our people, since the legally registered political parties have absolute liberty to carry out proselytizing activities during the electoral campaign. Hugo Mejia, president of the National Assembly of Political Parties, ANPP, made this statement in rejecting the false and ill-intentioned comment made by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, who dared to say that the opposition is repressed in our country, and that an electoral fraud is being conducted. The elections scheduled for 4 November have been prepared with legal mechanisms based on the experience of the so-called Western World, including the United States, he added. Here is his statement:

[Begin Mejia recording] Shultz statement is part of an open campaign to discredit the Nicaraguan revolution and all the actions of Nicaraguans. It coincides with a U.S. diplomatic campaign aimed at discrediting Nicaraguan leaders by linking them with terrorist actions and drug trafficking. This clearly shows the world the premeditation with which they are trying to weaken and discredit the revolution. Regarding his allegation that elections are a farce because the opposition is repressed here, all Nicaraguans know that the only repression -- if the term is applicable in this case -- is against the actions of the counterrevolutionary groups, whom the Nicaraguan people are confronting daily with sacrifice. We are able to counter this U.S.-sponsored intervention precisely because, for the first time in history, we will have free elections in Nicaragua, with the participation of 7 of the 10 political organizations that had been accredited by the National Council of Political Parties. Furthermore, the credibility of this electoral model outlined in the electoral law has been recognized by academic and political experts in the so-called Western World, which contradicts the U.S. allegation and confirms the slanderous campaign aimed at discrediting Nicaragua on the part of the U.S. spokesman. [end recording]

BREWERY WORKERS STRIKE CAUSES CONCERN

PA222238 Paris AFP in Spanish 1948 GMT 22 Aug 84

[By Ernesto Ramirez]

[Excerpt] Managua, 22 Aug (AFP) -- A strike is affecting a Nicaraguan brewery for the 3d consecutive day today. The state controls 85 percent of the shares in this company, therefore this strike has caused concern in official circles, which fear the possibility of similar movements by other labor groups. At least 1,000 workers were demanding salary increases this morning as negotiations between labor leaders and Labor Ministry officials to find a solution to the conflict were underway.

The case is viewed seriously because the movement originates in a group of workers affiliated with the Sandinist Central Organization of Workers (CST), and it affects an enterprise predominantly controlled by the state. Since the right to strike was restored 2 weeks ago two other labor conflicts emerged; one in a private sugar mill and another at the Corinto port in the country's western region. However, it was reported that they were quickly resolved.

The impact of the strike at the Victoria Brewery became evident a few hours ago when representatives of 80 unions of Managua's primary factories met at the CST. They demanded justice for the brewery workers' claims but criticized the employees' means of settling their salary disput.

FLETES INSISTS ON NEED FOR FREE ELECTIONS

PA230347 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 21 Aug 84 pp 1, 12

[Excerpts] To suddenly cut off the opportunity for the [Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic] Coordinating Board to register through a national dialogue would lead the Nicaraguan political situation to the verge of a crisis, said Adan Fletes Valle, political leader of the Social Christian Party.

Fletes Valle made the statement in response to information published by official papers that the leaders of the FSLN and its affiliated parties have asked the Supreme Electoral Council not to discuss further the issue of registering parties and alliances. The deadline to register candidates expired on 4 August. However, through reconsideration by the National Parties Council it was decided to postpone resolution on the legal status of the nonregistered parties.

Commander Daniel Ortega, presidential candidate of the ruling party, himself said in Chontales on Saturday that the Coordinating Board could still register if it filed a request with the Electoral Council. However, a meeting headed by Commander Carlos Nunez with the other registered parties, excluding the Independent Liberal Party (PLI), decided the opposite.

Commenting on the decision, Fletes Valle said: "According to the information published today, nearly all registered parties of Marxist-Leninist ideology and others allied with the FSLN have denied the country the right to find its own destiny through a national dialogue; such an attitude reveals a lack of political initiative and harms the public image of those parties because the people, hopeful of achieving peace through dialogue, cannot sympathize with those parties that deny them such a possibility. Besides, with this attitude those parties offer no guarantees to the people for a peaceful, democratic future."

"A NEW NICARAGUA NEWS AGENCY [ANN] wire releasing the information even gives the impression that the FSLN allies are the ones ignoring and violating the electoral law, not the opposition. Anyway, these are the results of differences among themselves."

"It is important to note that the image of the Coordinating Board is now stronger than before. The people realize it is the only political group insisting on dialogue in the search for peace, free elections, and the welfare of the people.

"The elections can be held without the Coordinating Board's participation; in the past they were held without opposition. However, under such conditions the elections will be harmful and meaningless.

"To hold elections without ensuring that they are free serves no purpose, because it will not help get the country out of the crisis in which it is immersed. The elections will have no meaning if they are not free."

EDEN PASTORA DISCUSSES ARDE'S PLANS, DIVISION

PA212324 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 0330 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Eden Pastora interviewed by reporter Mayin Correa in the "southern Nicaraguan mountains"; date not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Correa] How are things in the area? How many men are here?

[Pastora] We are fighting in one-fourth of Nicaragua's territory.

[Correa] Are we on Nicaraguan soil?

[Pastora] Yes. We are fighting in an area that covers 30,000 square km of Nicaragua from the Prinzapolka River in the easternmost part of Nicaragua to Matagalpa's Grande River to Escondido, Punta Gorda, and Indio Rivers and into the San Juan River area; and also in Rio San Juan Department, southern Zelaya, and part of Chontales Department. These areas cover 30,000 square km. There are 8,000 men fighting a guerrilla war with the small logistical support we are able to obtain. The vile limitations that we suffer make the struggle very difficult, bloody, and painful.

We want the democrats of the world and in this hemisphere to offer their understanding so that we can fight the USSR hand to hand [de tana a catana]. The Nicaraguan problem has an East-West orientation. Reagan himself said this. To repeat what Reagan said or for Reagan to say what everyone else is saying tis simply to state the truth. Who brought the East-West confrontation to Nicaragua? The nine commanders. They did this out of an ideological affinity. They are communists, Marxist-Leninists, and as such they have established a dictatorial regime in the Stalinist tradition. The Nicaraguans are a trampled people. For many years, decades, even centuries, they have been dreaming of freedom and democracy. This is why they fought Somoza and why we continue to struggle against international communism, a powerful force which half of the world supports. We Nicaraguans are asking the other half of the world to help us.

[Correa] You went to Europe to ask for help. What were the results?

[Pastora] Europe offered me political support in response to my political request. We offered to end the war and hostilities if the Managua government democratizes the revolution. In other words, we will stop fighting if the government grants freedom of the press, political freedom, and free elections as part of a democratic process in which the functions of state, party, and government are separated.

[Correa] Do you still hold that position? What happened to the group you formed called Super Rescue [Super Rescate] or something like that? What is your relationship with the gentleman I saw you with in Washington? The two of you were promoting that political position a month ago.

[Pastora] We are demanding -- this is a sine qua non -- that foreign forces be immediately expelled from Nicaragua -- 3,000 Cubans and their 2 generals -- and that human rights be respected. We -- Democratic Revolutionary Alliance ARDE Arturo Cruz, and Alfredo Cesar -- presented these demands together. These are the demands that we submitted to the U.S. Congress, to the Socialist International in Europe, and to the democratic organizations and governments of Latin America, Europe, and the world. We asked them to demand that the Managua government meet these conditions. These are the same demands that we made to Somoza, which forced us into a war against him, and that are now forcing us to conduct this war. We will continue our actions as long as they continue to violate the original revolutionary program. If in spite of the world's pressure they still do not meet these demands, we will continue our struggle. If on the othe hand they do, then we will end the war and join a process of free elections.

[Correa] You say that war continues on the southern front. How do you finance it?

[Pastora] With the limited funds that the Costa Rican and our own people give us. You just heard us talk with companeros deep inside Nicaragua. They receive help from the internal front. They give us power plants, medicines, and food. The things that the internal front cannot supply us with are munitions, boots, and other military supplies.

[Correa] Commander: How did the division within ARDE affect the struggle? How many men remained on one side or went over to another?

[Pastora] The division has hurt the struggle a great deal. There is no question about that. That is why we advocate unity, why we promoted the alliance of the six organizations, and why we promote unity and alliance with the Nicaraguan Democratic Force [EDN] within certain guidelines.

[Correa] Were you the obstacle to that merger?

[Pastora] So they say. I was allegedly the obstacle because four of the organizations within ARDE are demanding that the FDN pledge to support a democratic program once we seize power and to handle the country politically before the Nicaraguan people and the democratic people of the world. You see, there are two members of the FDN general staff to contend with: The FDN's military chief, a colonel who was involved in crimes committed during Somoza's days, and his second in command, Captain Lao I believe, who was very involved in the genocide during Somozist times. These demands prompt them to say that we are the obstacle to unity when in fact their presence as part of the FDN is the real obstacle. I wish to clarify the difference between the FDN that is in the mountains of Nicaragua -- we are seeking unity and an alliance with those FDN fighters -- and the FDN in Tegucigalpa.

Going back to the matter of the price of the division within ARDE, I must say that the four organizations that remained in ARDE -- Miskito, Sumu, and Rama Sandinist Unity, Misurasata, the Christian Democrats, the workers, and the FRS Sandino Revolutionary Front, FRS -- have suffered the consequences here in the fields. We have 8,000 fighters in ARDE. Why? Because many people who once helped us were confused by the developments and therefore stopped their assistance to us. They don't know who really comprises ARDE or who is really fighting. You can see this here and now. We have lost the supply of munitions and other supplies, economic aid and medicines. Even the helicopters that were unarmed and used as ambulances were stopped at an airport. The other one we had left was confiscated. I will not say how this happened or who is responsible, but they confiscated it and we ended up without an ambulance. As a result, we see how the division has caused serious difficulties in struggle to liberate our people.

[Correa] What will happen if the groups that you have approached in Europe and in Latin America do not respond to the request for effective aid for the struggle you lead? What will happen? One cannot fight with only a spirit of struggle; weapons are needed as the struggle is against a well-trained army that is supplied with weapons by the enemy. What will happen to your group?

[Pastora] With a mystique and a spirit of sacrifice, we are allowing time for the democrats, the honest people, the conscientious people to obtain all of the information needed and to learn the truth about who is in Nicaragua fighting with 8,000 men in an area of 30,000 square km, and who is fighting with 60 men on the farms of Costa Rica. Once the honest people learn about these realities the resources and aid will be channeled where it should be. We have faith in truth and reason; in the meantime we will continue the struggle and the battle under difficult conditions; under infrahuman conditions -- more painful, bloodier and more cruel. We are determined to continue until the very last consequences due to the political aspect of the dynamics of war. As long as a dictatorship exists in Nicaragua, we will continue operating within the framework of this dynamic.

[Correa] I know that the war practically dulls the senses. Perhaps, it has dulled yours as well. Is it not demanding too much from all of these people who sometimes starve to death or die due to the rough weather, to ask them to live in a place like this: so rainy, so unhealthy? Is it not asking too much of them? Is it not asking for too much since the political differences are resolved outside this world, since the ones struggling over the fate of these people are not living here, are not here in this jungle, in these rivers, in these marshes? Is it not too much?

[Pastora] Yes, but who is making these demands? In the best of cases, the Nicaraguan people demand this of themselves as a condition for achieving freedom. No one is demanding this from the Nicaraguan people. They demand this of themselves. They are forced to do this by the regime in Managua. The conditions imposed by a dictatorial regime make this war necessary. This war is also demanded by the politicians, among whom differences arise because of their political interests...

[Correa interrupts] But you are a politician too, Commander.

[Pastora] I am a politician, but I am also a military man and I know about these sacrifices; I also know of the people's pain. Because I am familiar with this, I do not want a war; instead, I want the unity of all Nicaraguans. I have promoted the unity of six of the seven organizations that are involved in this.

I was one of the principal -- if not the principal promoter -- of ARDE. I made [Misurasata leader] Brooklyn come over. When he was in Washington and I was in San Jose, I invited him to my home in San Jose and we held talks. We were the first to mention the ARDE alliance. I went to [ARDE leader] Alfonso Robelo's apartment to talk with him about the need for us to unite. I also went to the house of [ARDE leader] Negro Chamorro. Therefore, I have the moral authority to say that I promoted the unity of these organizations. I visited Tegucigalpa five or six times and talked with General Alvarez, [former Armed Forces commander in chief], with the CIA, the FDN, and with [FDN leaders] Calero and Callejas. I have talked to everyone in the search for unity. Now, I am speaking of unity under certain conditions because I have already sought unity without conditions with the communists and you saw how we fared. I do not want the same thing to happen again.

[Cor ea] Once you achieve victory, what to you expect? If democracy triumphs in Nicaragua, if the armed struggle triumphs, what do you expect? Do you want to be an army commander in free Nicaragua, or would you seek political-military leadership? What would your objective be after the victory?

[Pastora] Look...

[Correa interrupts] I am under the impression that your possible leadership after the victory is feared; that the leaders of the movements fighting for democracy in Nicaragua are perhaps fighting for something beyond the current situation. What share will go to whom? What will Pastora do? What can Pastora or any of the others want in the end? I think the struggle for power is being fought in advance.

[Pastora] If among those of us fighting for freedom and democracy there is fear of me, this fear is unfounded, since I became a leader after a historical 25-year long struggle. I say that it is unfounded fear because I have fought for democracy and freedom for 25 years. I have never endorsed a dictatorial government. When I was in the government of Managua and that government took the path of a dictatorship of the proletariat, thus contradicting the fundamental (?dictates) of democracy, I abandoned power. I was in power; if I had been interested in power, I would have remained there. I was not thrown out of Managua under a rain of bullets. I withdrew from the government. Moreover, my biggest political ambition, the dream of my political life, has been to see the Nicaraguan people live in peace, freedom, and democracy. My personal political ambition is to participate in democratic elections, cast my vote, and have it respected along with that of the humblest of peasants, however illiterate he may be, or that of a worker, an industrialist, or an intellectual. They should all be respected alike. On a personal level, after the struggle--if I'm permitted and if the army is under my command at the end of the war, I would like to dissolve the army, organize a civilian police instead, a civilian internal order police, and retire to educate my children, which is something I have never been able to do. I would dedicate myself to my children -- something I have never been able to do, and I would live with my wife. In other words, I want a vacation, my retirement; I want to live in peace.

I am not trying to achieve power, be the commander of an army, or the president. I have sometimes reflected on the life that presidents lead. Theirs is a highly sophisticated life, a life of tension. I have seen strong, robust men begin their presidential periods and I have seen them turned into decrepit old men at the end of their terms. I have already fought for 25 years. I will retire on the day we triumph and achieve freedom.

I have told this to Robelo a thousand times. And I have shown this before. On the day that we triumphed in Managua, I hung up my uniform and donned civilian clothes for 3 months. The Nicaragua people saw me wearing civilian clothes, and it was only on military orders by the directorate that I again put on my uniform because there had been negative comments regarding my wearing civilian clothes.

I would retire immediately, were it not for the fact that I am under superior orders.

[Correa] Commander: How about your health after the attempt on your life with a bomb here in San Jose? [As heard]. How do you feel? Are you in a position to again enter the jungle to resume fighting?

[Pastora] I am in the best possible fighting condition. I have come to the mountains twice after the attack. Physical laws cannot explain how I survived that attack. The only possible explanation is divine law, a miracle. This miracle becomes even greater when you consider that I have been able to return to the mountains only 1 and 1/2 months after the attack.

I plan to return to the front lines and direct the war from the combat zone. I am, however, constantly forced to move in and out of this active zone in order to visit personalities and democratic organizations that can give us the resources that we need. But, as soon as I can, I again return to the mountains and rejoin my companeros and the fighting.

[Correa] Commander: Regarding this rift in the forces that fight in the country's south, is there any danger that this rift may become a struggle among yourselves because there are resentful men on both sides? Could there be a war within the war in the south due this rift in ARDE?

[Pastora] Well, I am making efforts so that this does not happen. I have been restraining many companeros who resented the hijacking of the medical helicopter that evacuated the wounded from combat areas. Those companeros want to pass from words to action. It would be very much to the advantage of the Managua government and very much to our disadvantage to engage in an internal struggle.

In addition, efforts have been made to fan these feelings in our companeros from ARDE who are fighting in southern Nicaragua by hijacking our planes and our helicopter. Also, some people have visited the places where we have planned to go to ask aid for our 8,000 combatants, and, on behalf of ARDE, they ask for aid and spread false reports. In this manner, they make it difficult for us to wage war against communism. This bothers many companeros and elicits a violent reaction in many, thereby arousing the urge to pass from words to deeds. I have been opposing this, but I don't know how long I will be able to continue to check this. A danger exists and I am concerned.

[Correa] Commander: Shall we discuss the aid you have requested in international socialist countries in Europe? We learned of your interviews with Soares and Felipe Gonzalez in Spain through the news media, but we never learned of the results. Because time is getting short for you, the aid you have requested must be real, rather than merely words. What resulted from these meetings?

[Pastora] Those countries promised to demand that Managua comply with our demands. The Managua government committed itself at the beginning and, because of this commitment, democratic forces have been supporting it, I mean, many of the International Socialist democratic forces.

Hence, political and moral support was not long in coming, but at no time was there an offer to help in the event of a war. Although we sought support for our political plan, we believe that if political support is given priority, military support will follow sooner or later.

[Correa] I see some placards around mentioning elections in Nicaragua with a big question mark. Two months have yet to pass before the slated elections in Nicaragua. Can the government achieve political support for itself through the system's propaganda machinery, the same support that you seek for the struggle for democracy? They say the government that will come out of the election will be the government elected by the Nicaraguan people. Sometimes internal details do not transcend. What can you say on the elections in Nicaragua?

[Pastora] There will surely be elections, Somozist elections, without any genuineness. Many are sure of this, while some entertain doubts. We will wait and see. If conditions are not met and Somozist elections are held, we will continue our armed struggle.

[Correa] Don't you think that they will be able to convince other nations and then get the support they still have not achieved entirely from the democartic world? After all, they have partial support already. Don't you think that this would strengthen the elections announced, regardless of the conditions in the Nicaraguan government? Won't these elections please the democratic world? Won't the details of the elections be announced and will they not be convinced of the methods used? Don't you think that your political support is endangered?

[Pastora] I don't believe so. Honest men were never deceived by the elections Somoza used to stage. Dishonest men were. Honest and democratic men will realize there is no freedom of the press, that there was not enough time to campaign, that there is no political freedom, that the army-party-state triumvirate will prevail, that Cuban interventionists will stay in Nicaragua, that human rights will continue to be violated. I don't think that men like Felipe Gonzalez, Carlos Andres Perez, and Ronald Reagan, the U.S. Congress, honest people in Panama, Venezuela, Colombia, or Costa Rica will be blind to these things, particularly when they face the Nicaraguan people's reaction to them.

[Correa] [Words indistinct] ... Mr Cruz, Mr Cesar, and yourself with regard to the proposal you made to the Nicaraguan Government that they rejected? Has this discredited the Nicaraguan elections? Was it just an attempt to see what you could obtain? How do you view your position vis-a-vis the elections?

[Pastora] We have two principal goals: To ensure that the elections are free -- that is our main objective. Our second objective -- if the elections are not free and democratic -- is to expose the dictatorship's deceit before the honest people of the free world. This will give a clear picture of what is happening in Nicaragua and justify our struggle before the democratic world.

[Correa] Commander: There have been some political movements in Costa Rica. Some changes are expected with regard to Costa Rica's policy toward Nicaragua.

[Pastora] We respect third country's handlings of their affairs. However, we hope that those changes will be favorable to the struggle for democracy in Nicaragua.

ARDE COMMUNIQUE PROTESTS ROBELO'S STATEMENTS

PA212222 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 2300 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Nicaraguan Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, Directorate communique issued in Sarapiqui, in the "free territory of Nicaragua," on 20 August]

[Text] Reflecting the cry from our combatants at large and particularly those committed to the struggle in the country's interior, the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, Directorate announces to the Nicaraguan people and the free peoples of the world:

1. We vigorously protest and deny the statements made by Alfonso Robelo to various news on Monday, 13 August 1984, stating that combatants in Nueva Guinea and El Almendro, as well as Rama troops are commanded by Commander Fernando Chamorro under the Panama Pact signed by Robelo and the Nicaraguan Democratic Force [FDN] leadership without any regard for the ARDE-defined criteria announced on 13 July 1984. Robelo's statements are completely false and are a mockery to the companeros who die in the country's interior for lack of air transportation such as helicopters and ambulances which have been withheld by Robelo without any consideration for human grief, blood or lives.

2. We urge Robelo to stop confusing national and international public opinion with statements that, far from helping the unity of the Nicaraguan people, serve to set us apart because these statements are based on a distortion of facts.

3. ARDE Commander Eden Pastora reiterates to our fighters the order to cooperate with all rebel Nicaraguans who fight in our homeland against the Managua Marxist-Leninist dictatorship in order to attain our ideals regarding the democratic recovery of the Nicaraguan revolution.

4. We explain to the news media that the ARDE name cannot be used by those who have strayed from the postulates on which ARDE was based. For this reason, ARDE fighters, who are the large majority of peasants and workers, continue to fight under the name ARDE because the consider this name historical, revolutionary, and eminently Nicaraguan.

Sarapiqui, free territory of Nicarauga

[Signed] Commander Eden Pastora Gomez, Sandino Revolutionary Front; Jose Davila Membreno, Christian Democratic Solidarity Front; Brooklyn Rivera, Miskitos, Sumus, and Ramas Sandinist Unity; Donald Castillo Orozco, Solidairty of Christian Workers.

VOICE OF SANDINO REPORTS ARDE ACTIONS, CASUALTIES

Chontales Operations

PA211758 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicargua 2300 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Democratic Revolutionary Alliance Armed Forces war bulletin issued in Sarapiqui, in the "free territory of Nicaragua," on 20 August]

[Text] The General Command of the ARDE Armed Forces reports to the heroic Nicaraguan people and the world's friendly peoples that:

1. The Mario Sanchez Betanco and Martin Lopez columns of the Mocatin and Vibora units operting in Chontales and (Las Telas), in their search-and-attack mission, inflicted 80 casualties on the interventionist Cuban-Soviet Sandinist Poeple's Army EPS army in July.

2. These actions were carried out in Los Chiles, La Azucena jurisdiction, and in Acoyapa, Chontales Department.

3. The companeros who headed these columns are: Chicharra, Diablo, Guapote, Mario, and Tigrillo.

4. In Los Chiles fighting, we destroyed the area's outpost and another outpost was damaged by our fire. In Acoyapa, we ambushed a stationwagon that belonged to the dreaded Stalinist State Security Office. The vehicle was completely destroyed and its 10 occupants were killed. In the same area, we ambushed and destroyed an EPS jeep. The interventionist troops in it were also killed. Our revolutionary forces recovered many military supplies in these clashes. We sustained no casualties.

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!

[Signed] Eden Pastora Gomez, General Commander of the ARDE Armed Forces

Nueva Guinea Action

PA211750 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 2300 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Democratic Revolutionary Alliance Armed Forces war bulletin issued on 20 August in Sarapiqui, "free territory of Nicaragua"]

[Text] The General Command of the ARDE Armed Forces reports to the heroic Nicaraguan people and the world's friendly peoples that:

1. The Pablo Martinez, Luis Rojas, and Zacarias Rivas Columns of the Sierra Command unit operating in Nueva Guinea, in their search-and-attack mission, inflicted 70 casualties on the Cuban-Soviet interventionist Sandinist People's Army, EPS, in July.

2. The actions carried out by these columns occurred in El Porvenir, Colonia El Serrano, and Colonia 19 July, Nueva Guinea jurisdiction.

3. The companeros heading these courageous columns are: Chacalaco, Atombo, and Papachu.

4. In the fighting in La Providencia [as heard], our revolutionary forces ambushed two EPS trucks. One of them detonated an antitank mine and was completely destroyed. The other truck was the target of small arms fire. It was heavily damaged and many casualties were inflicted in this attack.

5. Our army of workers and peasants recovered three AK-47 Soviet-made rifles with Serial Nos 6837, 237590, and 437785. In addition, we seized 1,000 rounds of AK-47 ammunition. We sustained no casualties in these clashes.

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!

[Signed] Eden Pastora Gomez, General Commander of the ARDE Armed Forces

80 Enemy Casualties

PA220213 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 2300 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Democratic Revolutionary Alliance Armed Forces war bulletin issued on 21 August in the "free territory of Nicaragua"]

[Text] The General Command of the ARDE Armed Forces reports to the Nicaraguan people and the world's friendly peoples that:

1. The Domingo Antonio Gutierrez Giron and Rene Miranda Columns of the Commando War and Pajaro Blanco units, which operate in Nueva Guinea and Rio San Juan, inflicted 80 casualties on the interventionist Cuban-Soviet Sandinist People's Army, EPS, troops in June during their search-and-attack mission.

2. The actions by the Domingo Antonio Gutierrez Giron and Rene Miranda Columns were carried out in the communities of [name indistinct], Rio San Juan jurisdiction; and (Esperancita), El Porvenir, and (La Angostura), Nueva Guinea jurisdiction.

3. Companeros Nayo and Mexicano led these courageous columns.

4. During the clashes we suffered the heroical death of companero Julio Gonzalez Gaitan, alias Mercenario, and companero Cornelio Tejeira Ortega, alias Mexicano. During the clashes our revolutionary Sandinist forces conquered new positions in the Rio San Juan region. Clashes continue to be carried out deep within Nicaraguan territory. Our advance toward the center and north of our country cannot be stopped. We will not rest until achieving Nicaragua's freedom, until Nicaragua is again a republic!

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!

[Signed] Eden Pastora Gomez, General Commander of the ARDE Armed Forces

MIRET RECEIVED BY ROMANIA'S CEAUSESCU

FL221130 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] In Bucharest, Secretary General of the Socialist Republic of Romania Nicolae Ceausescu has received Pedro Miret, vice president of the Cuban Council of Ministers and member of the party Politburo. Miret expressed to Ceausescu affectionate greetings to the Romanian people, Government, and party on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of their revolution.

The Cuban leader also met with Deputy Prime Minister (Ioan Avram), with whom he discussed the sixth session of the Joint Intergovernmental Commission for Cuban-Romanian Economic Cooperation, which was held recently.

J.R. FERNANDEZ WELCOMES SPORTS DELEGATIONS

FL222238 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2130 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Jose Ramon Fernandez, vice president of the Cuban Council of Ministers and chairman of the organizing committee of the Friendship-84 Games, gave a cocktail party to welcome the heads of the foreign delegations which are participating in the games.

During the party, which took place at the Riviera Hotel in Havana, Fernandez conveyed the personal greetings of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro to the visitors and the desire of the leadership of the Cuban party and government that they have a pleasant stay in the country.

He also expressed his hope that these games are a worthy festival of sporting friendship and solidarity among the youth who are present. Finally, he gave a toast to all men of good will who believe in peace and coexistence among the countries of the world and who see in sport a vehicle for fulfilling this aspiration.

RESULTS OF POSSIBLE REAGAN REELECTION CITED

PA230218 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 21 Aug 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan is currently immersed in two tasks that are demanding all his attention: his reelection and the implementation of what he has called a policy of containment [politica de contencion] for Central America. Both tasks are closely linked, and they are fundamental to the Reagan political strategy until the November elections.

Reagan's aggressive nature will be put to the test in these months, and he already appears uncertain, committing indiscretions having a negative effect on his chances for reelection. Just a few days ago, Reagan jokingly said that he had ordered the destruction of the USSR and that the bombers in charge of carrying out this mission would take off in 5 minutes. This joke, which is not funny, was made a few minutes before he was supposed to go on the air to deliver a speech.

The truth, as some U.S. politicans have said, is that Reagan has a subconscious, permanent obsession with destroying the USSR and the other socialist countries. The possibility of this happening and bringing about the end of mankind is a concern for vast social and political sectors, who see in Reagan's relection a worsening of the already tense international political situation.

In its platform, the Republican Party, which opened its convention in Dallas, Texas, sets forth the present U.S. Government's militaristic attitude. The platform is full of the infantile ideas and inane remarks that President Reagan has been expressing in recent years. The Soviet NOVOSTI press agency termed the Republican Party platform a warmongering document containing the unethical views of a warmongering minority instead of the ethical attitude of a conservative majority.

Regarding Central America, the Republican Party platform says that Nicaragua cannot be allowed to become a communist sanctuary to export subversion and that only the U.S. Government's firm attitude can stop Cuba's subversive activities in the area.

In addition to boasting about the invasion of Grenada, the party's platform tries to establish a moral difference between the use of force for liberation purposes and for conquest. In relation to El Salvador, the platform calls for increasing military aid to the Salvadoran regime so that it can put an end, it says, to the state of rebellion existing in that Central American country. In other words, Reagan and his political team are planning to increase the genocide in El Salvador as the only solution to the guerrilla forces' activities. Obviously, for Reagan the so-called U.S. barrier policy for El Salvador is simply the indiscriminate bombing of rural communities which the White House considers the main source of FMLN logistical support. In the past few days the Salvadoran Air Force has increased its air raids over densely populated regions in the Departments of Morazan, Chalatenango, Usulutan, and San Miguel.

The Catholic Church reported over the weekend that 68 civilians, mostly women and children, were killed in the bombings carried out by the Air Force in northern Chalatenango Department. Not a day goes by in which the Salvadoran mercenary Army does not massacre the civilian population. Is this the peace that Reagan wants for El Salvador with his reelection? The lives of thousands of innocent people in Central America depend on those who are supporting Reagan's reelection.

REPUBLICANS APPROVE 'ULTRAREACTIONARY PLATFORM'

FL221158 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] As was to be expected, the U.S. Republican Party has approved an ultrareactionary platform that was rejected even by President Ronald Reagan's daughter. The approval of the platform for the November presidential elections was the principal undertaking of the second day of the Republican convention in Dallas, Texas. The adoption of this document was considered by the press as confirmation of the increasingly ultrareactionary line that has characterized the Republican Party since Reagan took power. The party platform rejects tax increases to reduce budget deficits, advocates the return to the gold standard to fix the value of the dollar, condemns abortion, and stresses the fact that the United States must be stronger than any of its supposed adversaries.

The ultrareactionary program was rejected by various Republicans attending the convention, including Ronald Reagan's eldest daughter, Maureen, who critized the party's refusal to accept any compromise on women's rights. Today, Wednesday, the official designation of the team Reagan-Bush as candidates is awaited as the Texan city continues to be the scene of demonstrations in opposition to the domestic and foreign policies of the Republican administration.

Further Report

PA221901 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] The delegates to the Republican Party's national convention last night approved a party platform, that observers described as ultrarightist. The platform encourages the use of force in relations with other countries and calls for a more militarized Western Europe that is also more dependent on Washington. It regards the start of the deployment of cruise and Pershing II nuclear missiles in the old world as one of President Reagan's successes. The approved program calls for the rearmament of the United States in search of military superiority, and it encourages the formation of continental alliances against the Soviet Union and the socialist community.

The new platform defends the alleged U.S. right to intervene in Central America and indicates that the U.S. invasion of Grenada in October 1983 set an example for the entire world. Although the program met with few opponents, Reagan's oldest daughter was among those who criticized it. She has decried the Republican's refusal to make any commitments on the subject of women.

GRANMA WELCOMES CLOSING OF SCHOOL OF AMERICAS

FL221622 Bridgetown CANA in English 1541 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Havana, Aug 22, CANA-REUTER -- Cuba today welcomed the decision to close the U.S.-run School of the Americas in Panama but cautioned that the military college could continue classes in murder and torture in some other part of Latin America.

Good news, but not entirely, headlined the article in the official newspaper GRANMA, whose views reflect those of Fidel Castro's communist government.

GRANMA said the military college had trained such criminals as Anastasio Somoza of Nicaragua, Chilean President Augusto Pinochet, and former Bolivian leader Hugo Banzer.

Through its classes have passed more than 44,000 Latin American military men. The vast majority, on return to their home countries, have been downright executioners of their people and unquestioning servants of imperialist interests, it said.

GRANMA added that the college could be moved to Honduras or Puerto Rico and that it would be wrong to think that the last had been heard of the hated School of the Americas, where the lessons are murder, torture, and the oppression of the peoples of Latin America.

BARBADOS KEY TO U.S.-TRAINED CARIBBEAN FORCE

FL222314 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2130 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Barbados, arms depot and rearguard of the U.S. invasion of Grenada, has now become the backbone of the regional army of the English-speaking Caribbean, which will soon be trained in Key West, Florida. The size of this military force, which is being planned by the United States as a deterrent to people's uprisings in the English-speaking West Indies, is being kept secret, although it has been reported that it will be made up of about 1,000 men. Troops from Barbados, Antigua, Dominica, St Vincent, St Lucia, St Christopher-Nevis, and perhaps Grenada will go to Key West to receive military training from their U.S. tutors.

COMMENTARY ON U.S. MILITARY BUILDUP IN HONDURAS

FL221830 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Commentary by Roberto Alvarez Quinones, head of the International Relations Department of the Union of Cuban Journalists, and Oscar Ferrer of GRANMA]

[Excerpts] [Ferrer] Today we will discuss the continuing use of Honduran territory for military maneuvers in which U.S. troops participate, and the turning of Honduras into a true site for launching U.S. forces in the event of a U.S. intervention into El Salvador and Nicaragua.

The Honduran and United States armies began new maneuvers on Monday in the central Honduran region of Palmerola. These maneuvers, named Operation Lempira, are the second conducted under this name -- the first was conducted from July to the first week in August. In the current operation, U.S. troops from Fort Bragg, North Carolina and Fort Gulick in the Panama Canal Zone are participating. The plan is for the present maneuvers to continue until the end of August. On the Honduran side, troops from three Army infantry battalions will participate. The maneuver will take place in the Palmerola region and mountainous areas of Comayagua Province, where U.S. troops have been located for some time. In Palmerola alone, it is believed that there are currently some 700 U.S. troops.

Operation Lempira coincideswith the arrival in Honduras of large amounts of heavy weaponry and military equipment of all types, including 26 U.S. helicopters which have already been unloaded at the port of Cortez. The operation also coincides with a demonstration of force the battleship Iowa is conducting off of Costa Rica. All these factors, Quinones, [words indistinct] in the Central American region, especially against El Salvador and Nicaragua, because it is part of the policy of force which the Reagan administration has been conducting for a long time now in Central America.

[Ferrer] I wanted to point out that both Operation Lempira and the arrival of more U.S. military equipment coincide with the reshuffle in the Honduran cabinet. It has been commented that the cabinet changes took place after direct pressure was applied by the Honduran Armed Forces and the U.S. Embassy in Tegucigalpa. Various sources have said the Honduran Armed Forces pressured President Roberto Suazo Cordoba to make these changes as a way of confronting the serious economic crisis affecting the country, characterized by a constant devaluation of its currency, an ever increasing cost of living due to a very high fiscal deficit, and a very large foreign debt of more than $2.5 billion. The cabinet reshuffle affected six ministers and two of president Suazo Cordoba's advisors; the other ministers were ratified.

The United States and Honduran Armed Forces were pressuring for the cabinet changes because of Honduras' position in the region. Both parties are interested in guaranteeing that U.S. strategic objectives will be carried out in the Central American region. To do this, the Honduran Armed Forces and the U.S. Embassy have tried in every way to guarantee that all problems which exist in Honduras be overcome and resolved, in order to attain a minimum stableness which will allow the U.S. to continue using Honduras as a base for future interventions into the region.

[Quinones] And corruption... Along with U.S. aid comes corruption, which is alarming certain sectors of the U.S. Armed Forces who are in Honduras.

A western news agency said a short time ago that the most spectacular increase in U.S. military presence at the world level in the last year had taken place in Honduras, where there are currently five large military installations more or less permanently located with modern and sophisticated equipment. The news agency said that in Honduras special work groups are working on several infrastructure projects such as widening of airstrips in Jamastran, Cucuyagua, and other provinces.

As every one knows, the United States has slowly converted Honduras into a huge military base from which it can command a direct intervention. As we have said, the maneuvers are significant because they have taken place one right after another. There are so many names of maneuvers now, there was Big Pine, Agues Tara II, Kilo Punch, Grenadier I, and Ocean Venture, which was also with Honduras and in which 350 ships and 3,000 soldiers participated. They were all very large-scale maneuvers, and they seem to be becoming permanent maneuvers for a complete occupation of the country.

[Ferrer] This has been going on for almost two years now.

[Quinones] Yes, it has been almost two years now. I think the maneuvers are significant in relation to this apparent or supposed U.S. policy of trying to straddle two fences. But, there are not two fences here. The U.S. cannot support the Contadora Group and continue its policy of force in the area and military occupation of Honduras. It is impossible.

[Ferrer] It should be pointed out that these new Lempira maneuvers in Honduras, the arrival of more weapons into Honduras, and the U.S. ship maneuvers on the Pacific side of Costa Rica and on this side of Central America in general are nothing more than a foreshadowing of the Reagan administration's decision to not vary its aggressive policy in the region. This policy was recently reiterated in the approving of the Republican Party's political platform at the party's convention in Dallas.

The document, which calls on Reagan to reinforce and reaffirm his aggressive policies in the region, and which states definitely that the president should generally take a hard line in foreign policy, states that this line is indispensible in Central America for U.S. national security. Once again the problem of U.S. national security is brought up as the indispensable reason for keeping troops in the Central American region. In the platform, Cuba and Nicaragua are once again attacked and the Salvadoran regime is once again supported -- again the president's aggressive policies toward Central America are reiterated.

To conclude, we should reiterate that the military maneuvers currently taking place in Honduras and the repeated use of Honduran territory for U.S. military purposes, is nothing more than a reiteration of the Reagan administration's objectives in Central America for an eventual intervention from Honduran territory into El Salvador or Nicaragua, an objective which has been expressed in the Republican Party's platform.

NICARAGUA'S D. ORTEGA ON POSSIBLE U.S. ATTACK

PA230333 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 22 Aug 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Excerpt] During the past 15 days over 160 counterrevolutionaries have died in 38 clashes with the Sandinist Army in 4 departments near the border with Honduras, the mercenaries' hiding place. Events indicate that counterrevolutionary plans to wear out the Sandinist Armed Forces and then call for direct U.S. military intervention in Nicaragua are not going well. Nevertheless, we cannot rule out that possibility.

The U.S.-Nicaragua talks do not mean that the danger of an armed U.S. intervention has decreased either. So long as Washington and the Pentagon lend every kind of aid to the counterrevolutionary bands operating against Nicaragua, the danger of direct U.S. military intervention will exist.

On this subject, Nicaraguan junta coordinator Commander Daniel Ortega has remarked that the Ronald Reagan administration has adopted two clearly contradictory stances. On the one hand, it is holding talks with Nicaragua, and on the other the Republic Party platform calls for Washington's aggressive policy against that Central American country to continue.

Daniel Ortega said that a U.S. armed intervention in Nicaragua would unleash war throughout Central America. The Central American peoples would not tolerate intervention, he said. In the long run the United States would have to accept revolutionary victories, not only in Nicaragua and El Salvador, but throughout Central America. Daniel Ortega said there is no coordinated plan among the area's revolutionary movements in that respect. However, he warned that a direct U.S. attack would provoke Central American reaction.

NICARAGUA'S RAMIREZ QUOTED ON COSTS OF WAR

FL221242 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1400 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] Sergio Ramirez, member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua and vice presidential candidate, has said that the U.S. administration has spent approximately $400 million on its undeclared war against the Nicaraguan people. He also said that Nicaragua had suffered economic damage exceeding $200 million as a direct result of the aggressive policy of the government of Ronald Reagan. He added that hundreds of young persons who could be studying or doing productive labor in favor of the fatherland are forced to bear arms in defense of liberty.

Sergio Ramirez said that now more than ever the Nicaraguan people must be united, close ranks, and prepare themselves to respond firmly to attacks by U.S. imperialism.

FMLN DEMANDS SALVADORANS NOT SUPPORT DUARTE

FL221226 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1102 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] The FMLN has demanded that small and medium-size Salvadoran businesses withdraw their support from the government of Napoleon Duarte. A declaration broadcast by Radio Farabundo Marti calls upon all Salvadoran social, political, and economic sectors to constitute a government of broad national participation.

REPORTAGE ON DEVELOPMENTS IN EL SALVADOR

PA222151 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] According to several dispatches from El Salvador, at least 9 people died and 21 others were wounded in El Salvador, when a grenade thrown at a house by an auxiliary element of the regime's civilian defense exploded. According to the charges made by several peasants and confirmed later by personnel of the Santa Teresa Hospital in Zacatecoluca, 50 km east of San Salvador, the individual hurled the device at a house where some 30 people were watching television. The sources claim that the person responsible for this action, which took place in La Herradura, about 7 km from Zacatecoluca was captured by the local people and turned over to the military authorities.

The General Association of Salvadoran University Students has charged that the subject of prisoners and missing people -- of such importance in El Salvador in recent years -- has not undergone any substantial changes following the installation in power of the Christian Democratic government. A document on this subject issued by the association demands that the authorities fulfill their promises and stop playing with the sorrow of thousands of Salvadorans. The document includes the names of 37 students imprisoned in Mariona jail, north of the capital; of 2 women detained in the jail at Ilopango; and of 8 missing people.

Meanwhile, Radio Farabundo Marti has announced that the tyranny's air force dropped 7,000 tons of explosives last week on the civilian population that lives near Guazapa Hill. The source added that this measure is part of a counterinsurgency operation, in the course of which fourteen 500-lb bombs were dropped on the cantons of Corozal, Mirandilla, La Caja, Consolacion, and Platanares.

COSTA RICAN BANANA STRIKERS' SITUATION REPORTED

FL221510 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1404 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] The Committee for the Defense of Human Rights in Central America has confirmed the existance of a virtual state of emergency in southern Costa Rica, which has been shaken by a banana strike since 9 July.

According to the human rights organization, a large number of uniformed men are in charge of supplying or denying travel permission in this area, some 290 kms from San Jose.

The organization said the police were quartered in the buildings of the banana company, which has rejected the negotiation of a wage adjustment with its 3,000 striking workers. It also reported that the strikers' fundamental rights had been virtually suspended, as had the rights of other Costa Rican citizens who need to travel through the areas where the strikes are taking place.

VARIOUS GROUPS ORGANIZING MARCH IN PERU

PA230106 Havana International Service in Quechua 2200 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Text] Reports from Peru state that political, trade, peasant, student, and civic organizations are organizing a grand march to request that authorities end the wave of violence in that country. The march will be called "March for Peace, Social Justice, and Democracy," and will take place on 24 August. According to the organizers, ranking Peruvian personalities will join the march.

Other Developments

PA222307 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Peru's National Agrarian Confederation [CNA] has denounced threats against the parents of this organization's assassinated leader, Jesus Oropesa, because they demanded that the criminals be punished. CNA President (Felipe Huaman) made this charge. He also announced that a march for peace and democracy will be staged on Friday to demand the resignation of Interior Minister Luis Percovich and the dismissal of Civil Guard Director General Juan Balaguer.

Meanwhile, EL DIARIO MARKA recently published several reports on the murder of Jaime Ayala, the newspaper LA REPUBLICA'S correspondent in Ayacucho. This crime was committed by officers of a unit in the city of Huanca. The publication also reports the murder of children in Sachabamba, Ayacucho, at the hands of paramilitary elements.

In Lima the Peruvian Communist Party has denounced the kidnapping and disappearance of party member (Juan Quehues) in what it has termed a campaign against the left by the government's repressive and paramilitary forces.

CHILEAN PROTEST CAMPAIGN SLATED FOR 4, 5 SEPTEMBER

PA222148 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Five more bomb explosions, which caused blackouts and serious damages in electrical installations and railroads, took place on Tuesday evening in various parts of Santiago. These new explosions must be added to nine others, which took place in several Chilean cities, causing serious damages in electrical and telephone installations. banks, and postal offices. The Manuel Rodriquez Patriotic Front [FPMR] has claimed credit for all these actions. Through phone calls made to various media offices, the FPMR said that it will continue to carry out these actions to repudiate Augusto Pinochet's regime.

According to other reports from the Chilean capital, Manuel Almeyda, president of the People's Democratic Movement, has said that the advances of the opposition's struggle will be confirmed during the next national protest campaign slated for 4 and 5 September. Those advances, Almeyda stressed, have led the dictatorship to desperation and have made Pinochet threaten that he will repeat the genocide carried out in 1973 in order to curb the people's spiraling march to freedom. Pinochet recently attacked the opposition members harshly, warning that another 11 September might take place in Chile.

HEALTH MINISTER PRESIDES OVER CEREMONY

FL221254 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] In Playa Las Coloradas, Bayamo, Health Minister Sergio del Valle presided today over a ceremony commemorating the 1954 medical school graduating class. Efrain Benitez Popa, one of the physicians who graduated 30 years ago, used the occasion to reiterate the decision of his colleagues to make Cuba into a medical power and continue the struggle against imperialism regardless of outcome.

TV TRANSMITTERS INSTALLED IN CIEGO DE AVILA

FL222346 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Cuban television signals can now be received more clearly in the Ciego de Avila town of Punta Alegre and surrounding areas after the installation of Cuban-made transmitting equipment.

BARBADOS

CENTRAL BANK REPORT SHOWS CREDIT RISE

FL221536 Bridgetown BARBADOS ADVOCATE in English 15 Aug 84 p 2

[Text] Manufacturing, tourism, the distributive sector of the Barbados economy, as well as personal loans were among the commercial banks' greatest creditors [as published] at the end of May, according to Central Bank Economic and Financial Statistics (EFS) release.

The bank said that at the end of May this year, commercial bank credit stood at $789.9 million compared with $711.5 million for the same period last year - an increase of $78.4 million.

Commerical bank credit to manufacturing at the end of May this year was $118.5 million as against $113.9 million at the end of May last year - an increase of $4.6 million.

Tourism, Barbados' number one foreign exchange earner, received $102.9 million from commerical banks at the end of May as against $98.1 million at the end of May last year - an increase of $4.8 million.

The distributive sector received $26.5 million more from commercial banks by the end of May this year when credit to that sector moved from $99.3 million at the end of May last year to $125.8 million by the end of May this year.

The bank said that the agricultural sector of the economy received $36.6 million in credit from commercial banks by the end of May this year as against $32.9 million by the end of the same month last year - an increase of $3.7 million.

Fisheries, Barbados' small but growing industry, got $1.6 million in credit from commerical banks by the end of May this year compared with $1 million by the end of the same month last year, while mining and quarrying received $2.2 million compared with $1.5 million for the same period last year.

Entertainment and catering received $11.6 million in credit from commercial banks by the end of May this year as against $10.9 million by the end of same period last year and transport got $1.2 million more, moving from $23.8 million by the end of May last year to $25 million by the end of May this year.

The Central Bank report said that public utilities (such as the telephone company and the light and power company) received $7.1 million less credit from commercial banks by the end of May this year. Credit dropped from $66.5 million last year to $59.4 million this year.

Construction also received less credit from commercial banks this year. By the end of May last year, construction received $32 million in credit from commerical banks compared with $30.8 million by the end of May this year.

The bank said that government received $5.9 million in credit from commercial banks by the end of May this year as against $4.4 million by the same period last year.

Financial institutions received $15 million more credit from commercial bank by the end of May this year, when its credit moved from $15.8 million by the end May last year to $30.8 million by the end of May this year.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

PRD NAMES COMMITTEE TO MEDIATE SENATE DISPUTE

FL221514 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] In Santo Domingo, the ruling Dominican Revolutionary Party [PRD] began delicate negotiations yesterday between rival party factions, each of which claims to have elected its nominee as Senate president. The controversial elections took place last Thursday, leaving the Senate at an impasse. The party's National Executive Committee yesterday named a committee of four members to attempt to mediate the tangled dispute.

ECUADOR

BANK, MONETARY BOARD HEADS ON FINANCIAL POLICY

PA221712 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Carlos Julio Emanuel, manager of the Ecuadoran Central Bank, announced last night that Ecuador will request a $350-million loan from an international bank to cover the balance of payments deficit. The agreement, which will be signed with the IMF, will not entail long-term financing, Emanuel explained. One of the country's greatest difficulties is the economy's foreign sector, he added after a meeting with the Monetary Board.

Meanwhile, Raul Clemente Huerta, president of the Monetary Board, confirmed that the economic measures that the Febres Cordero government will adopt will not be hastily conceived. Despite the expectations in the country, the monetary authorities will proceed cautiously, the official said. Huerta asked Ecuadoreans not to speculate and create false alarms, which only benefit the speculators themselves.

Emanuel added that Ecuador will attend the IMF and World Bank annual meeting on 24 September.

PANAMA

WORKERS ORGANIZATION OPPOSES PLUTONIUM TRANSIT

PA221822 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 21 Aug 84 p 3

[Text] The National Central Organization of Panamanian Workers, CNTP, through its executive secretary has expressed its strong opposition to the plans to authorize the transit of a U.S. vessel transporting atomic weapons and explosives. This transporter of death and war should not be allowed to transit the canal, since our people's slogan and desire is to have "a canal for peace, and not for WAR [capitalized word as published]." The CNTP also considers this ship's transit through our waters highly dangerous from the security point of view, because an accident -- which we would all regret, except for persons who entertain this idea -- would have unpredictable consequences. Therefore, as peace-loving people, we demand that the national government not permit the transit through our waters of "The Carrier of Death," and we ask all rank and file organizations to publicly express their repudiation and opposition to the transit of this atomic vessel.

PARAGUAY

FIVE CONSTRUCTION UNION LEADERS DETAINED

PY221344 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 22 Aug 84 p 12

[Text] Five leaders of the National Union of Construction Workers (Sinatrac) [Sindicato Nacional de Trabajadores de la Construccion] were detained in Villa Hayes on 18 August at noon when they were about to organize a work committee with the Paraguayan Steel Inc. workers.

Relatives of the detainees today told HOY that all five are being held incommunicado in the Cerrito military base. They are: Organization Secretary Carlos Castillo, Treasurer Pedro Zarate, Record Deputy Secretary Melanio Morel, Deputy Secretary General Gregorio Ojeda, and Board member Nicasio Guzman.

The detainees' relatives, who came to HOY's offices, said: "The law establishes that workers can organize freely and for this reason we think that their arrest is arbitrary. They are all Colorado Party members, and yet they are detained."

Villa Hayes Bishop Melanio Medina was able to meet with the detainees, who told him that they were going to be released shortly but that the Paraguayan Confederation of Workers objected to their release and that this was the reason for their still being under arrest.

The persons who came to HOY's offices are: Ricardina Guzman, Digna Maidana de Guzman, Felix Ramon Gonzalez, and Construction Workers Union Secretary General Lino Gomez.

All of them expressed hope that the detained leaders will be released because union activity is protected by Paraguayan law.

SURINAME

3 STRIKES BEGIN OVER WAGES, GOVERNMENT

FL221320 Hilversum International Service in English 1000 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] Strikes have broken out at three companies in Valen's. They are the (Kappelani) chain store, which has 500 employees, the (Varlin) furniture factory with about 120 employees, and the (Kirsten) cement factory. Labor unrest is expected to spread further.

The strikes are because of both wage demands and dissatisfaction with the present government. It is not yet clear whether these are wildcat strikes or are officially backed by the trade union. Meanwhile, the principal trade union leaders of Suriname are having talks in the Netherlands after visiting China. On arrival at Schiphol Airport, Fred Derby of the C-47 Trade Union Federation, (Fred van Mesful) of the Mother Union, and (Hendrik Silvester) of the CLO [Public Servants Organization Central Council] public service union said they knew nothing about the unrest in Suriname.